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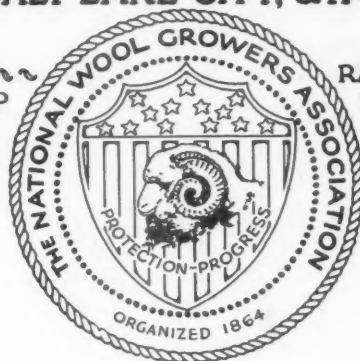
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The NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

COMPREHENSIVE REPORTS OF
AND ACTIVITIES OF SHEEP

TO NON MEMBERS ~ UNITED
FOREIGN



RANGE AND MARKET CONDITIONS
RAISERS ORGANIZATIONS

STATES & CANADA \$1.50 PER YEAR
\$2.00 PER YEAR



Vol. XV No. 1

JANUARY, 1925

WOOL GROWERS—ORGANIZE!

Take Part in Your Conventions

UTAH—

January 16, Salt Lake City

IDAHO—

January 12-13, Boise

OREGON—

January 14-15, Pendleton

WASHINGTON—

January 14-15, Ellensburg

The 60th Annual Convention of the National Wool Growers Association

JANUARY 21-22-23, 1925

SAN FRANCISCO, at the Palace Hotel



The National Western Stock Show at Denver

January 17th to 24th, 1925

is one of the many efforts sponsored by the Denver Union Stock Yard Company towards the upbuilding of the livestock industry of the west. The benefits to the range country through the development of this show are incalculable.

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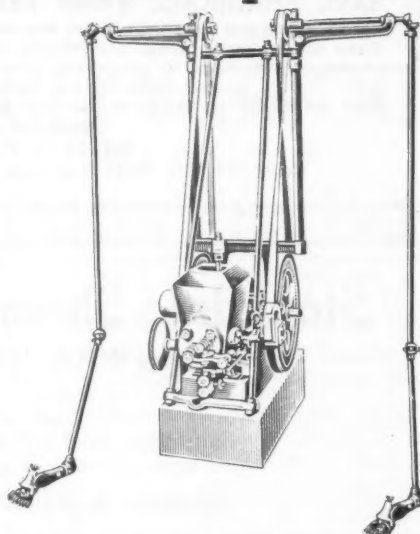
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60th Annual Convention of National Wool Growers Assn.
San Francisco, California, January 21, 22 and 23, 1925

ANOTHER UNSOLICITED ONE!

"Mr. C. H. Shurte, President and General Manager,
Wool Growers Commission Company,
U. S. Yards, Chicago, Ill.

"Chelan, Wash., Aug. 11, 1924.

Dear Sirs: "I am in receipt of A/S of my 14 cars of lambs which you sold for me on the 4th, 5th and 6th of this month at \$13.90, the top of the market each day. I also noticed that no other lambs sold this high. I was not only pleased with these sales, but you have secured me good prices for all my shipments. I actually believe you get more out of consignments of sheep and lambs than anyone else. This is why I ship to you.

"Wishing you a prosperous season, and again thanking you for your good work, I am

Yours truly,

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When you want the market, do not overlook the WOOL GROWERS COMMISSION COMPANY—always there to get the market; no mistakes made. We know values, whether fat, feeders or mediums. Ship to a firm that does not have to guess as to values.

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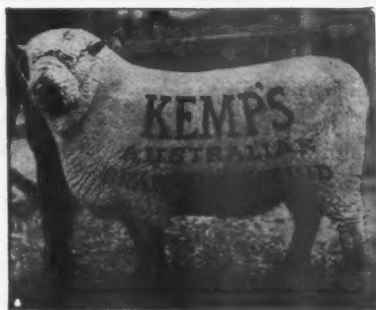
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You will find many helpful suggestions in the chapters on permanent improvements, cross-breeding and mixed farming, wool, fat lamb raising, management of a Merino flock, diseases of sheep, and station management.

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Wonderful Rain—Wool is Growing

NOW is the time to decide whether you will market your spring clip in the old hit-miss-guess-shrink-quality-condition way or make use of a selling organization owned by wool growers exclusively where you receive correct information as to the value of your clip.

No Damphool notions. Just wool sense.

Such an organization is the

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The First Government Licensed Wool Warehouse in the West.
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ASK YOUR DEALER FOR

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Hogs or
Sheep**

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**But More Progressive Than
Others**

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Cut-Over Land for Sheep

In the Highlands of Louisiana

WHERE PASTURES ARE GREEN NINE MONTHS OF THE YEAR

In a pamphlet on Sheep Husbandry, by a well known authority, published by the Department of Agriculture, the author made the following statement: "It is doubtful if there is any other section of the United States that presents so many material advantages for the successful and profitable raising of sheep as that bounded by the Appalachian mountains on the east, the Mississippi River on the west and extending from the Ohio River on the North to the Gulf of Mexico on the south. Possessing an equable climate where cold is not so severe during the winter as to make feeding of sheep a necessity, nor so hot in summer months as to work a degeneration in the character of the fleece, it has justly been considered an ideal sheep country."

As conditions in the Highlands of Louisiana are practically the same and in some respects superior to those found in the territory referred to, it is reasonable to assume that the opportunities for success and profit there are equally favorable. Sheep men in the Highlands District have already demonstrated that satisfactory results are obtainable even from inferior animals.

Location

The Highlands District is that upland portion of Southwestern Louisiana 175 miles west of the Mississippi, 129 miles south of Shreveport, 100 miles north of the Gulf of Mexico and 25 miles from the eastern boundary of Texas. DeRidder (population 5500) is the Parish (County) Seat and a trading point of importance. It has many fine retail and wholesale establishments, banks, creamery, warehouses, saw mills, car shops and industries. A modern city in every respect with municipal water works, sewers and other utilities. It has a large high school with a teaching staff of 22 instructors. Its wide-awake Chamber of Commerce is constantly striving for things that go to make a bigger and better town. DeRidder has a commission form of Government.

A Proven Sheep Country

Sheep raising in the Highlands District is one of its oldest industries. Flocks were pastured there before the timber was removed and the number has increased materially in recent years. Local sheep men have already demonstrated that satisfactory profits are possible even from inferior native sheep which run on wild grass pastures both winter and summer, with little care and attention from their owners who round them up annually for shearing and marketing. Experts who have examined these sheep and observed conditions in the District declare that if such inferior stock are profitable, then there should be a greater return on the capital invested if time, attention and up-to-date methods were applied to the raising of well bred sheep and lambs. There are practically no predatory animals in the district.

Soil and Climate

The topography of this part of Louisiana is gently rolling in

character and well drained by numerous creeks. The soil is a vari-colored sandy loam, overlaid with a good semi-porous clay subsoil. There are no stones. To those who have endured the hardships of the bitter winters of the North, the climate makes an irresistible appeal. Winter, as known in this latitude, consists of occasional snappy cold days and nights and corresponds to autumn in the Northwestern states. Snow, ice and extremely cold weather are rarely, if ever, experienced.

Pasture Grasses—Feed Crops

Carpet Grass, Bermuda and Lespedeza (Japanese Clover) are the leading pasture grasses of the Highland District. All are relished by livestock and provide grazing nearly every month of the year. The food value of Carpet Grass is comparable to Blue Grass. Bermuda grass, the foundation of all good permanent pastures in the South, bears tramping with little injury and greatly benefits by close cropping. Lespedeza (Japanese Clover) in habits, growth and feeding value, greatly resembles Alfalfa and is one of the most nutritious feeds for livestock in the District. Cow Peas, Velvet Beans, Soy Beans, Oats, Rye and Crimson Clover grow abundantly. Corn is also a valuable crop and good yields can be expected by intelligent cultivation.

No Underbrush

Land is absolutely free from underbrush. Except for the stumps which average about 40 to the acre, its undulating surface resembles an open prairie country. Everywhere the ground is covered with a heavy growth of wild grass and weeds and flowers varying in height and luxuriance with the season of the year.

Fences Cost Little

It costs little to fence. Posts are made from the hearts of old yellow pine trees that have been left on the land. These are made by contract for 21¢ to 3¢ each from material obtained on the land that is to be fenced. By reason of low freight rates, wire of all kinds is obtainable at minimum cost.

Good Markets—Low Rates

All the great markets of the country are accessible to sheep raisers in the District. Chicago is but 1,100 miles distant, St. Louis 700, Kansas City 690, Ft. Worth 365 miles, New Orleans 350 miles and Houston, Texas, 150 miles. Numerous railroads provide fast through freight service. Large packing plants are in operation at Ft. Worth and Houston, Texas, as well as at New Orleans and Shreveport, Louisiana. Wool buyers are on the ground during the shearing season. In 1924 the average price for wool was slightly over 40¢ per pound.

Land Prices—Terms of Sale

This land can be purchased for \$5 to \$7.50 per acre in units of 1,000 acres or more. We require but 10 per cent cash at the time of sale, balance in ten equal payments, the first becoming due one year from date of contract, remaining installments maturing annually with interest at 6 per cent per annum. All deferred installments are made payable on or before due date. None of the land offered is over ten miles from a railroad or twenty-five miles from the Parish (County) Seat.

Low Round Trip Rates

Round trip winter tourist tickets to the Highlands District can be purchased at practically all Western and Northwestern points and effect an important saving in the cost of a trip of inspection. Special excursion rates which include all necessary expenses, are also available on specified dates. We would be glad to advise all interested the exact cost of the trip to our headquarters in the Highlands District, including an estimate of expenses while traveling as well as accommodations at the comfortable hotel we maintain for visitors at our headquarters at Ludington, Louisiana.

Send for Our Bulletin, "Sheep Raising on Cut-Over Land"

What Sheep Men Say About It

The following is an extract from the report of the committee appointed by The National Wool Growers' Association to investigate the lands in Louisiana for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not the cut-over tracts were suitable for ranging large herds of sheep:

"We found the lands to be ideal for sheep raising, consisting of table lands, low rolling hills with plenty of water running in streams. The lands are high, dry and free from swamps, and such a thing as foot rot is not known, while in the extreme south near the coast, this disease is prevalent. The principal grasses are sage grass, lespedeza, or Japanese clover, for sheep grazing. There are also some weeds growing over the country which afford good pasturage for sheep. We found quite a number of sheep running over these lands in small herds, ranging from fifteen to thirty in a herd; these sheep running wild the year round. The natives turn them out on the range and let them go for a year at a time. There is no question in our minds that farming and sheep raising combined, where sheep can be run during the summer months on the ranges and enough feed raised to do them for four months, would make a successful business. The climatic conditions are ideal. The daily maximum temperature is about 75 degrees and the daily minimum temperature is about 56 degrees, with a rainfall of about 55 inches during the year, very well distributed. There is no doubt in the mind of our committee that there is no place in the United States that offers better opportunities to the man who wants to combine farming and stock raising than this country does. The country is surely worthy of the consideration of sheep men who are being crowded out of business in the West."

LONG-BELL FARM LAND CORPORATION

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Kansas City, Missouri

SHEEP Marketing Problems

ARE SIMPLIFIED BY THE

DEPENDABLE MARKETING SERVICE

AFFORDED BY

W. R. SMITH & SON

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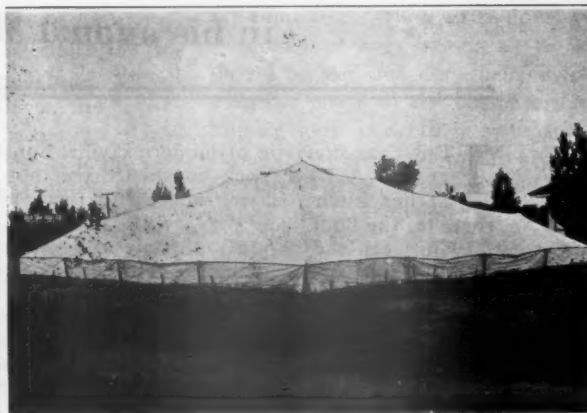
OMAHA—CHICAGO—DENVER

"Nothing But Sheep"

The "Red Seal" Sheep Tent

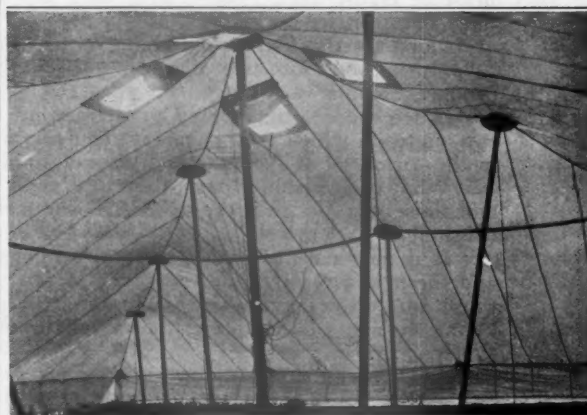
One of these wonderful portable canvas sheds will cost you less than five cents per head per season. Can you beat it? How many lambs could you have saved last season with one of our tents?

Ask any large grower who has used our tents



DESCRIPTION.

Made of 12 or 14-ounce duck, as ordered. Fully hand roped with best manila rope. Fitted with adjustable ventilators in roof. Stakes and poles, as shown in cuts, are included. Wall 2 feet 6 inches high. Jump ropes (or hold down ropes) on each quarter and center pole.



Each No. 1 tent will hold about 1,200 head of sheep.

Tent will weigh close to 500 pounds, taking first-class freight rate. Poles and stakes will weigh about 350 pounds, taking third-class freight rates. Two men can put up this tent in two hours. Tent is HIP ROOF style, which is the best style for strong winds.

Tent No. A—71x71—for 2000 sheep
Tent No. 1—58x58—for 1200 sheep
Tent No. 2—42x42—for 600 sheep
Tent No. 3—29x29—for 400 sheep

Prices greatly reduced—write us for them.

Orders must be placed now for spring shipment.

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Exclusive makers of "Red Seal Tents"

1421 Larimer Street

(Dept. N. W.) Denver, Colo.

***"The Great Need of the Farmer Is Markets"*—President Coolidge** in his annual Message to Congress

IT is characteristic of modern civilization that producer and consumer have grown farther apart. A New York housewife will not buy a pig in Iowa. She wants pork chops delivered at her kitchen door, where the Iowa farmer would find it altogether impossible to sell them on the hoof.

Between the two, a multitude of services must be performed in order to make the raw material salable and available in a form in which the consumer will buy it.

In other words, **marketing** has become essential no less to the producers than to consumers, because it serves equally the needs of both.

What economists call the "division of labor" has brought about the necessity of marketing the products of the farm. Large groups of the population in the cities are engaged in industrial enterprises, while the rural population specializes in producing the raw materials of food and clothing for both.

The consumer requires meat, bread, butter and numerous other finished products, and insists on having them at convenient places. The farmer, on the other hand, produces livestock, grain and other products which are not acceptable to the consumer, either in their raw state or at the point of production.

The farmers' products, therefore, are not ready for use in industrial communities. They must be transported, graded, processed and distributed, and these transactions must be financed until the ultimate consumer actually pays for the goods. Only when these additional services are added are the consumers willing to pay for farmer products.

Marketing comprises all these services which have to be performed in order to make raw products salable.

When the consumer buys he offers what it is worth to him to induce the producer to provide raw material which the consumer requires, and to induce the middlemen to deliver these goods in the form and at the time and place desired.

What the consumer pays, therefore, must be divided between the producers of raw materials and those who perform the additional services necessary to make the products acceptable to the consumer.

It is only natural that a comparison between the prices paid by the buyer of finished products and the prices received by the seller of raw materials should raise some question on the part of those who do not know and understand the nature and cost of the services involved in the marketing system. Inevitable criticism falls upon those who operate between producer and consumer.

Armour and Company and other packers are engaged in the essential service of marketing one of the most important products of agriculture. It is Armour and Company's belief that a fuller knowledge of the functions performed by the packing industry in marketing these products will lead to better understanding of the mutual interests of producer, consumer and packer, and enable this company to continue and increase what it regards as a great public service.

Our purpose, therefore, is to present in a series of messages, to the readers of this magazine, the most important facts about the marketing of livestock and meat products.

ARMOUR AND COMPANY — CHICAGO

THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

VOL. XV

JANUARY, 1925

NUMBER 1

NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

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F. J. Hagenbarth, President

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ASSISTANT EDITOR.....IRENE YOUNG
Salt Lake City, Utah

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Affairs Of Wool And Sheep

Organizations—Conventions

No argument is needed as to the necessity of better organization of wool growers. Organization is the movement of the day and the men or industries who do not get in step can rely upon being left in the rear in the march of progress.

No organization ever has or ever will grow and accomplish without the coming together of its members for counsel, instruction, direction and inspiration.

The National Wool Grower, which is published by and for wool growers, advises and urges every owner of sheep to secure membership status in the wool growers' organization of his state and in the national body. It is good business to do so. While it is theoretically possible to be a good organization man without attending conventions, in practice it does not work out that way. Those who now attend the state and national meetings comprise a very small fraction of the ranks of sheepmen, all of whom benefit by association and convention activities. In fact, those who are now active in organization work represent the minimum number through which the planning, educating, and executive work is now being done in a very limited way for the sheep industry.

The best way to secure the benefits of organization and to make the sheep business more attractive and safe for the sons of present owners is not to just pay dues and then sit back. The right way is to go out after other members and to take part in shaping the policies and undertakings of the organizations.

Attend your State Meeting. Go to the national convention if at all possible. Get others to join and attend. If there is not room for you on one of

the committees, then write down your opinions and suggestions as to what should be said and done in connection with the phase of the business that is causing most concern in your section. Hand such statement to the secretary. Go before the committee which receives it and argue for its being brought before the convention. When it comes up be prepared to explain and defend it. Don't just join. Get in and work. It will do you good and you will enjoy it. Get others to do the same. Then wool growers truly will be organized.

Lamb Prices:

Recent strong advance of prices for fat lambs give assurance to feeders who were uneasy last fall over their ten and a half cent contracts for feeder lambs when feed prices advanced. At the time the Wool Grower suggested that the high price of feed, the short supply of thin lambs, and the growing demand on the Pacific Coast all made high winter prices probable.

The good fortune of the feeders should be reflected, in part at least, in the prices to be paid for 1925 lambs that are not fat enough for slaughter when sold by their raisers.

There is an element of danger through over confidence in strong valuations of wool and lambs. The wool grower is too likely to look at the price of lambs and feel that he still is secure even in event of low wool figures. But the lamb eaters are not so numerous or so fond of lamb that they will pay without limit for chops, legs, or rolled shoulders. The public has not felt the effect of the last two months' rise in the lamb market. That rise came with the advance in wool and can be expected to last just as long as higher wool prices prevail and no

longer. When wool eases off, live sheep and lambs will follow and it will be unwise and unsafe to figure upon the possibility of continued high lamb prices when the day comes for the wool market to turn.

The spectacular advance of lamb markets at Christmas time was due in part to strong demand from eastern retail butchers, but the steady rise of recent weeks came as a result of the rise in wool, and did not cause advance in eastern prices for dressed lamb. During the period of advance of five cents on live lambs the dressed carcass trade went up only one cent per pound.

Conservative operators must recognize that recent lamb values are not independent of the wool situation. The demand for lamb is strong, but yet quite limited.

FOR AGRICULTURE

The President has appointed a commission of fine men to make a study of our agricultural needs. One is at a loss to imagine what they can recommend which would benefit the farmer when all of his troubles come from over production. This is a difficult thing to correct, at least by legislation. We are spending in the United States each year not less than \$300,000,000 in propaganda to increase farm products. Our Department of Agriculture—agricultural colleges, farm papers, railroads, banks, commercial clubs and dozens of other institutions are all engaged in urging the farmers to raise more. We are now going through a dairy and turkey boom that has resulted in surplus production. We cannot go on increasing production without we find new markets, and none are to be found. Everybody says "sell more to Europe," but Europe already has more than she can use and will buy less and less as time goes on. If Russia was back on a producing basis wheat would fall 50 cents per bushel over night. Russia could feed the world, as her resources are almost unlimited. She used to export 300,000,000 bushels of wheat, and it is the lack of her wheat that is now forcing up prices.

Any legislation that results in increased production will hurt the farmer. Any form of price fixing will give only temporary relief and then will lead to destruction, either of the farmer or the government. What the farmer needs more than anything else is to be let alone. Some one ought to shut up about him and he will work out his troubles onto a sound, sane basis. The farmers ought to boycott a lot of these organizations that are urging more farmers and more farm products. We have land enough under cultivation to feed our nation 500 years hence. That is as far ahead as any one need now look.

I have thought that the Agricultural Commission might well recommend a duty of five cents per pound on hides. That would help the cattleman, and he needs more help than anyone else. We should also suspend all homestead laws for at least twenty-five years and not a new acre of land should be irrigated by the government until the money expended for existing projects has been fully repaid—that will be fifty years hence. Let us adopt the slogan, "Millions to complete the existing projects, but not a dollar for new ones."

S. W. McClure.

NEW YEAR'S GREETING TO WOOL GROWERS

It is a gratification and pleasure to reflect that among all agricultural livestock activities, the wool grower today is reaping the benefits of rehabilitation and bids fair to be soundly and securely on his feet during the coming year.

I desire, however, forcibly to call to the attention of all the members of our association, as well as wool growers in general, the fact that a large measure of their present prosperity is due to the constant and intelligent efforts of your state and national associations. I wish especially to speak of the splendid work that has been done constantly and unremittingly throughout the past year by your able and far-seeing secretary, Mr. Fred R. Marshall, to whom the rank and file

of wool growers in this country can never make a return adequate to the benefits which he has secured for them. Others, too, are to be commended. I refer to the secretaries and presidents of several of your state organizations. But the outstanding fact is that the National Association has secured for the wool grower such benefits as history has not up to this time recorded. The recent victory in the wool freight rate case alone is enough to pay your fees to this organization for many years to come.

Again, at this juncture I want to remind you that this work has been done without a proper support from many wool growers who have reaped these benefits. But I sincerely hope that with the New Year, a new resolution will be made, not only to properly support and finance your National Association, especially on behalf of the benefits that have been secured in the past, but to show our gratitude by having a sense of benefits to accrue in the future. There are several big constructive programs to be carried out, and there are some dangers to avoid. You cannot do these things individually and must depend on your organization to do them. Therefore, if you do not support your organization, these matters will receive no attention and you alone will be the losers. Not only pay your individual dues and pay them liberally and promptly, but also during the coming year make it your business to act as a committee of one in every instance and secure as many new members as possible for the state and national associations. Without organization you will not only stand a chance to lose some of your present prosperity, but will be unable to plan for better things.

The New Year indeed looks prosperous, and nothing but utter incompetence or carelessness on the part of the individual grower can stand in the way of its being a banner year for all.

The next convention will be held at San Francisco on January 21, 22, and 23. Take the good wife to California and attend the convention.

F. J. Hagenbarth.



SIXTIETH ANNUAL CONVENTION National Wool Growers Association

January 21, 22, 23, 1925

San Francisco, California
(PALACE HOTEL)

THE PROGRAM

Wednesday, 10 a. m.

Welcome to California.
Report of Secretary-Treasurer.
Reports of Work and Status of Affiliated
State Associations.
President's Annual Address.

Wednesday, 2 p. m.

Subject of the Session: Live Stock Grazing on the National Forests and the Public Domain.

The Secretaries of the U. S. Departments of Agriculture and the Interior have been invited to address the convention. The Chief of the Forest Service and the Assistant Secretary of the Interior or the Commissioner of the General Land Office are expected to be present.

Following addresses on this subject, the convention will be turned over to the Committee on National Forests and Public Lands for a general discussion of the Association's attitude toward pending proposals relating to the subject.

Wednesday Evening.

Banquet and entertainment.

Thursday Forenoon.

Subjects: The Foot and Mouth Disease.
Educational Work Relating to
Range Live Stock.

Thursday Afternoon.

Subject: Interest Rates and Terms of Live Stock Loans.

This subject will be discussed by representatives of western financial interests and of the Intermediate Credit and Joint Stock Land Banks.

Thursday Evening.

Moving Picture Films Furnished by the U. S. Department of Agriculture:
Suppression of Foot and Mouth Disease.
Safeguarding Animal Health.

Friday.

Subjects: Organization and Cooperation.
State Laws Affecting Live Stock.
Discussion of Committee Reports.
Election of Officers.

Entertainment for Ladies

The California Wool Growers Association has appointed a special committee for the entertainment of all ladies attending the convention.

Committee Meetings

The Committee on Organization and Finance will meet at the Palace Hotel on Tuesday forenoon.

The Committee on National Forest and Public Lands will meet at the Palace Hotel Tuesday afternoon.

The Executive Committee of the National Wool Growers Association will meet at the Palace Hotel Tuesday evening at 8 p. m.

RAILROAD RATES

Return tickets at the rate of one and one-half fare will be sold by the Western Pacific, Southern Pacific, and Union Pacific lines. These tickets will be on sale from January 17 to 21, inclusive, with the return limit for leaving San Francisco January 26. No certificates are required. The Southern Pacific reduced rate does not apply in California. Those coming from eastern states may find it necessary to purchase local tickets to Salt Lake or Ogden, and there buy the special-rate tickets.

The various lines also have nine-months' tickets regularly on sale during the winter at materially reduced rates. These tickets are sold to Los Angeles and return and allow stopovers at San Francisco and other points.

In addition to the above rates, special winter excursion rates, good for three months, are to be sold from most of the states, to start on January 17.

It is strongly urged that all those planning to attend the convention should consult their local ticket agents several days in advance of the time of leaving.



Around the Range Country

NEW MEXICO

Roy

Sheep are in splendid condition so far—very fat—and the wool crop promises to be a good one. None of it, however, has been contracted yet.

The weather during most of November and December was good. There was some snow, but not very much, and one very cold week the latter part of December. Feed on the winter range is good, better than it was a decade ago, and corn is also plentiful and good. Alfalfa hay is priced at from \$10 to \$12 in the stack.

We bred more ewes this fall, compared with last year, and have retained about 75 per cent of the ewe lamb crop to breed next year.

Twenty-five dollars was the latest price paid here for yearling Rambouillet rams. With the exception of a few ewes of mixed ages that have moved at from \$5 to \$8, no ewes have been for sale.

Nothing is being done here to control the coyotes and of course they are increasing.

I favor putting the Government lands under control of the Forest Service for grazing under permits.

IDAHO

Delco

The first two weeks of December brought fine weather, but on the 16th it commenced to storm and since then we have had the worst weather in years. We commenced feeding our bands about the 26th. In my opinion this section bred about 20 per cent fewer ewes last fall than in 1923. Ewes of mixed ages are bringing from \$12 to \$14, but no yearlings are for sale. A few older ewes have been sold at from \$8 to 10, but not many of them are offered. You can get a loan of from \$5 to \$8 per head on range ewes.

Nearly everybody here favors the ten-year-permit plan in connection with the Government lands outside the

forests. We think, however, that the Government expects us to hold and own altogether too much hay land.

Alfalfa hay in the stack is quoted at \$10. Herders are getting \$80 and camp tenders from \$75 to \$80.

G. B. Flyn.

* * *

Payette

We are having lots of snow, so we will have good range next season. The first twenty days of December were good, so far as the weather is concerned, but the last few days were very cold and brought about eighteen inches of snow. Very few sheep were fed hay until about the last ten days, but now nearly all of them are on hay, which can be bought in the stack at from \$8 to \$10.

Fewer ewes were bred in this section last fall than a year ago, and also very few lambs are being wintered. Ewes of mixed ages have been sold recently at \$10; coming two-year-olds, from \$12 to \$13; and older ewes at \$8 to \$10. Six dollars is being loaned on range ewes.

Wages for herders are \$60 to \$75, and for camp tenders, \$75.

Lester C. Seawell.

COLORADO

Grand Junction

Most of the sheep in this vicinity winter in Grand County, Utah. The feed there is fair and the sheep are wintering well so far. Deep snow and cold weather, however, have drawn them up some. It commenced to snow here on December 6 and has been snowing off and on since—from six to eight inches here now. A few of the bands are being fed cotton cake and hay. Hay is selling at from \$8 to \$10 in the stack.

Very few ewe lambs were held over this year. However, some ewes have been bought and shipped in from other states for breeding purposes. I think a few more ewes were bred last fall than in 1923. Sales of ewes have been

reported at \$10 for mixed ages, \$14 to \$15 for coming two-year-olds, and \$5 to \$7 for older ewes.

Herders and camp tenders are being paid from \$60 to \$75.

Most of the wool has been sold, except a few of the larger clips.

H. Jolley.

* * *

Dolores

Fully 80 per cent of the wool has been contracted here. The early price was 40 cents, but on December 31 it had reached 44 cents. So far no contracts for 1925 lambs are reported, but offers have been made to contract them at \$11.15.

Severe storms and extremely cold weather have occurred during December. At times there has been from six to twelve inches of snow on the winter range. No feeding, however, was necessary, although from now on (January 1) more or less feeding will be done as the winter range plays out. Alfalfa hay in the stack is priced at from \$8 to \$10.

About 10 per cent more ewes were bred in this locality last fall than the fall before, and from 8 to 10 per cent of the 1924 ewe lambs were retained for breeding next year. Recent sales of ewes have been reported as follows: \$14 for mixed ages, and \$4 to \$6 for aged ewes. No sales have been made on yearlings. Up to \$9 can be borrowed on range ewes in this section.

Fifty dollars is being paid herders, and \$60 to \$65 to camp tenders.

Wm. Ritter.

CALIFORNIA

Covelo

At this time (December 20) feed is very short, owing to the hard frosts and lack of fall seeding. During the latter part of November and up to December 10, we had fine warm rains and the feed came along nicely. Then a light snow fell, followed by freezing temperatures up to the present. On account of the dry summer, there was

no old feed on the range, so the grass did not grow as it should. There is only a limited quantity of alfalfa hay, and it is quoted at \$20 a ton.

About 20 per cent more ewes were bred this year than in 1923, and about 18 per cent of the ewes have been held over to be bred next year. No sales of ewes have been made recently, but the prices for good average range ewes are around \$12.

Extensive poisoning campaigns against predatory animals are being conducted here with excellent success. We have received more benefit in one year from poisoning than in ten years under the bounty system.

G. F. Johnson.

* * *
Llanada

The first part of December was mild, but the latter part has been very cold. All of the sheep are being fed hay and corn, with alfalfa hay at \$25 a ton.

Ten dollars has been paid recently for ewes of mixed ages; \$12 for coming two-year-olds; and \$7 for older ewes. Loans to the extent of 50 per cent of the ewe's value can be secured here. No ewe lambs were retained this year, and fewer ewes were bred.

My advice to sheepmen is not to get excited this spring and hold stuff at prices out of reason. When a reasonable price is offered, take it.

I think the government lands should be left alone.

G. W. Collins.

* * *
Birds Landing

December weather was excellent, and no feeding has been necessary. Ewes of mixed ages are quoted at from \$9 to \$10; coming two-year-olds at \$12; and older ewes at \$7 to \$8.

Alfalfa hay, baled, is selling at from \$20 to \$22; other hay is priced at from \$18 to \$20. Herders are getting \$60 a month and found.

A. C. Hanson.

* * *
Ukiah

We are having some cold weather just now (December 18). Temperature today nineteen degrees above zero, which is very cold for this section. Sheep are doing very well. Coyotes are not as bad as usual.

L. Hoag.

WASHINGTON

Prosser

Although it was a bad fall for the ranges, the Yakima country has plenty of feed and the sheep have all been pastured or fed since coming out of the mountains, and they are now in good condition. Nice weather prevailed during early December, but the last half brought snow and very low temperatures. Alfalfa hay can be bought at from \$10 to \$12.

We raise black-faced lambs here, but keep white-faced ewes. I think there was a slight increase in the number of ewes bred last fall. Prices for ewes range as follows: \$10.50 to \$12 for mixed ages; \$13.50 to \$14 for coming two-year-olds, and \$6 to \$8 for older ewes. About 50 per cent of the value can be borrowed on ewes.

Herders and camp tenders are getting around \$75 a month.

Willis Mercer.

* * *
Yakima

December weather was bad; temperatures were down to ten below. About 90 per cent of the bands are in alfalfa pastures or being fed hay. Some grain is being given to the sheep on the range. Alfalfa is priced at \$10 in the stack.

No ewe lambs were retained last fall for breeding purposes next year, but some ewes have been shipped in from Oregon. About the same number of ewes were bred this season as a year ago.

Wages for herders and camp tenders range from \$75 to \$90.

S. O. Stewart.

OREGON

Stanfield

While the first half of December was very warm, the latter part of the month was very cold. I fed my sheep once a day until the cold weather started, and since then I have been feeding twice a day. Alfalfa hay, which is about the only kind of hay we use, can be purchased at around \$10.

Range ewes of mixed ages have changed hands at from \$9 to \$10, and

a price of from \$11 to \$13 has been placed on coming two-year-olds. Older ewes are quoted at \$6 to \$8.

Six dollars can be borrowed on range ewes in this vicinity.

Wages for herders are \$75, and camp tenders are being paid from \$60 to \$75.

In regard to Forest Service matters, I should like to suggest that the wool growers pass a resolution asking the Forest Service to include in its requirements of forest rangers and supervisors at least two years of actual experience in stock raising.

J. C. Haskins.

* * *
Dayville

From the first of December to the middle of the month, the weather was beautiful, but from then on to the end of the month it was very cold. All of the bands are being fed hay, which can be bought at from \$10 to \$12.50 in the stack.

We bred about the same number of ewes this year as formerly. None of the ewe lambs were held back to breed next year, however. On December 1 ewes of mixed ages were quoted at \$9 and four-year-olds at \$11.

We are very much opposed to having the government land outside of the forest reserves controlled in a similar way to the grazing on the national forests. We feel that another grazing fee to pay would ruin us.

Herders are getting from \$50 to \$75 a month, camp tenders \$75.

W. R. Mascall.

MONTANA

Cascade

We are having some very cold weather (December 20). The thermometer has ranged from twelve to forty below for the past five days. There has been a stiff breeze at the same time, but no snow to speak of. Stockmen all have plenty of feed here and there is plenty for sale at around \$10 per ton if we should run short. More than half of the 1925 wool clip has been contracted at prices ranging from 40 to 46 cents a pound, with \$1 per head down.

C. R. Tittinger.

DECEMBER WEATHER

By J. Cecil Alter.

The following summary of weather, livestock and range conditions, has been prepared from the various publications and reports of the United States weather bureau:

UTAH—The coldest weather in many years, with unusually deep snow over much of the state, was rather severe on both cattle and sheep; and much cattle feeding and some range sheep feeding have been necessary. A few losses of both cattle and sheep occurred, though some extreme western, southern and eastern ranges remained open and afforded fairly good feed, being better on the western deserts than was earlier expected.

NEVADA—Extremely cold weather and deep snow, especially over the northern half of the state, caused considerable livestock suffering, with some losses. Feeding was greatly increased, with some movement of stock to market, other ranges, or the feeding corrals. Most of the desert range remained in fairly good condition, with ample snow; and sheep thereon are doing well.

IDAHO—Favorable weather most of the month kept livestock up well, but bitterly cold weather with considerable snow, followed by heavy rain generally, hindered livestock feeding, and many desert range bands suffered from lack of feed, and from the intense cold.

MONTANA—Much chinook weather kept the snow cover down and was comfortable on livestock; but cold waves during the last half of the month necessitated considerable feeding and caused some suffering, though without losses, as hay was ample and snowfall not heavy. Livestock are thus in good shape generally.

WYOMING—Extremely cold weather during the last decade, especially in western and northern counties, where deeper snow and considerable livestock shrinkage were reported, in spite of unusually heavy feeding. However, very favorable reports were received from central and southeastern

counties, and as there is much open range and temperatures are milder, no losses are expected.

COLORADO—Severely cold weather with more or less snow cover caused some livestock suffering, though no important losses occurred and conditions among livestock were fairly good. Feeding was heavy, especially in the northwest and northern portions, where snow cover was heavier. Running water became scarce because of the cold.

WESTERN TEXAS—Cold weather with some snow was hard on livestock, and light losses occurred. Ranges are fair or poor, and some shipments to better pastures have been made. Livestock are in fair condition and some feeding is being done.

NEW MEXICO—Cold, stormy weather prevailed, and some livestock shrinkage was reported, though many animals did fairly well on a moderately good range. The few remaining livestock in the southern portion, including the southwestern and southeastern districts, are in poor condition, most of them having been moved because of short range and drought.

ARIZONA—Copious precipitation occurred generally, rain in the southern portion being very beneficial to the range; but deep snow in the north, with unusually cold weather, caused increased feeding. Lambs and poor animals suffered considerably from cold, though general conditions of livestock and ranges are fair to good.

CALIFORNIA—Temperatures have averaged too low for the best growth of grass, though moisture has been ample in most sections, except locally in the south. However, pastures and ranges are generally good and cattle and sheep have done fairly well, though cold weather caused some local suffering.

OREGON—Livestock have continued generally fair to good, though considerable feeding has been necessary on account of the abnormally cold weather. Some livestock losses were reported, due to the extreme cold in the eastern portion, though ranges were fairly good.

BULLARD RAMBOUILLETS TO TEXAS

Mr. Frank Bullard recently shipped five carloads of registered Rambouillet sheep to a number of parties in west Texas, including 200 registered Rambouillet ewes and three choice stud rams for Senator Hudspeth at El Paso. These sheep were personally selected by Senator Hudspeth when visiting at the Bullard ranch last summer.

Sixty head of registered Rambouillet ewes, including ten very choice stud ewes and twenty head of stud rams went to Mr. Roger Gillis at Del Rio, Texas. Mr. Gillis also bargained for a son of Monarch, out of a Bullard ewe. This was probably one of the choicest rams sired by Monarch, and Mr. Gillis secured him at quite a long price.

Five registered stud ewes, a very select lot, sold to Mr. E. E. Strickland at Juno, Texas. Mr. Strickland had bargained for these early in the season and expected to show them at several of the leading shows. On account of foot and mouth disease, it was impossible to make shipment in time for these shows. These ewes were indeed a very choice lot, very uniform in type, and carrying excellent fleeces. It is understood that Mr. Strickland also bargained for five show ewes from each of several prominent Rambouillet breeders in Utah and Wyoming, and his negotiations aroused considerable competition, each breeder picking his flock closely to beat the other fellow—a unique scheme in getting first-class foundation stock for a Rambouillet flock.

Mr. John McCorkuedals of Del Rio, an old friend of Mr. Bullard's, also secured one choice Monarch yearling ewe—this being the only ewe ever sold by Mr. Bullard that was sired by Monarch.

Word was received upon delivery of sheep indicating that the consignees were highly pleased with the selection that Mr. Bullard had made for them, which is gratifying to the breeder.

R. F. Miller.

SOME OF THE JUNIOR WOOL GROWER PRIZE WINNERS



The above group of pictures show some of the winners of the prizes offered by the Wool Grower in November for solving the problem given in wool shrinkage and value:

1. Elise Sproat, Boise, Idaho.
2. Grace Anderson, Salt Lake City, Utah.
3. Mary D. Allen, Juntura, Oregon.
4. Winifred Bartlett, Woodland, Calif.
5. Marion L. Murdock, Sugar City, Ida.
6. Lorraine Boley, American Fork, Utah.
7. Leroy Lewis, Hotchkiss, Colo.
8. Mae Young, Livermore, Calif.
9. J. Craig Mackie, Caliente, Nev.
10. Ralph Jorgenson, Ephraim, Utah.
11. Ferd Sorenson, Brigham City, Utah.
12. Arno Sallaberry, Chowchilla, Calif.
14. Jean Graham, Conrad, Montana.

Other junior wool growers eligible for prizes, but whose photographs were received

too late to be included in the above group, or not at all, are:

- Laeta Barnett, McAllister, Mont.
 Noel Edwards, Spearfish, S. D.
 Nels S. Ellard, Salt Lake City, Utah.
 J. N. Ely, Jr., Kennewick, Wash.
 Veleria Glead, Lima, Mont.
 Velma M. Hagerman, Forsyth, Mont.
 Elaine Hansen, Almo, Idaho.
 Byron C. Holliday, Martinsdale, Mont.
 Geo. Hontover, Chicago, Ill.
 Gerald Nicolaysen, Casper, Wyo.
 Glen Norstrom, Soda Springs, Idaho.
 La Verne Rentschler, Toppenish, Wash.
 Geraldine Truitt, Salt Lake City, Utah.

The Problem.

A certain fleece of wool weighs eight pounds and in scouring shrinks 65 per cent. A second fleece contains the same amount

of clean wool but carries an additional two pounds of dirt and grease.

a. What per cent will the second fleece shrink when scoured?

b. What is the value of each fleece if the scoured wool is worth \$1.45 per pound?

The Solution.

1. Eight pounds, weight of first fleece, .65 per cent shrinkage in scouring, 5.20 dirt and grease. Eight minus 5.2 equals 2.8 clean wool.

5.20 plus 2 pounds dirt and grease equals 7.2 pounds. Clean wool equals 2.8 pounds. 10.0 weight of second fleece.

7.2 divided by 10 equals 72 per cent, the second fleece will shrink when scoured.

2. 2.8 equals clean wool in both fleeces at \$1.45 per pound equals \$4.06, value of each fleece.

Rambouillet Breeders Remove Telegony Rule

Rule IV of the rules for registry of the American Rambouillet Sheep Breeder's Association reads as follows, (or rather it did read as follows until December 3, 1924, when the members present at the annual meeting voted to abolish it):

"Rule IV. No product of a Rambouillet ewe shall be eligible for registry after such ewe shall have been bred to any other ram but a registered Rambouillet."

The Rambouillet is not the only breed which has had such a rule among its rules of registry. The Dorset Association and the Michigan, New York and Vermont state associations of Merino breeders and possibly other associations have had or still have such rules. It may not be out of place, therefore, to consider what was the purpose of such a rule and why it has been discarded.

The rule was first established because of a belief in what is commonly called "telegony." The dictionary defines telegony as "the alleged influence of a previous sire upon progeny of a subsequent one from the same mother." The belief in this influence is a very old one, as witnessed by some of the Hebrew marriage laws and customs recorded in the Old Testament, but it is not now very common among breeders of live stock. The prevalence of the belief is quite commonly overestimated. Thus the statement is frequently made that the belief is common among breeders of dogs, but E. Davenport, who tested the matter out about twenty years ago, by writing direct to many of the best known dog fanciers of the United States, reports that out of thirty-seven who replied, one was a believer in telegony, six were uncertain, two did not commit themselves, and twenty-eight were outspoken against the theory.

It is an eloquent testimonial to the desire of the Rambouillet breeders to do the right thing, that they kept on their books a rule which occasioned them personal inconvenience and loss,

so long as they admitted that there might be something to this belief, even though they very much doubted it personally. It is not so much of a testimonial to their up-to-datedness that they should have waited until 1924 to remove this rule when practically every textbook on animal breeding published in the last twenty years contained the evidence which removed all reason for believing in telegony. These books include such widely used ones as those of Davenport, Marshall, Harper, Babcock, and Clausen.

The most widely quoted piece of "evidence" to support the belief in telegony is the case of Lord Morton's Quagga, which was accepted at its face value even by so careful an observer as Charles Darwin. Late in the last century, Dr. J. Cossar Ewart, a British scientist at the University of Edinburgh, attempted to repeat the case of Lord Morton's Quagga. He could find no evidence of telegony at all, but did find abundant evidence to make him believe that the original case had just been a case of reversion. For the man who is still inclined to believe in telegony, one of the most interesting bits of reading possible would be Mr. Ewart's book, "The Pennycuik Experiments," or Mr. Ewart's shorter article on breeding and origin of domestic animals, published in the twenty-seventh annual report (1910) of the Bureau of Animal Industry, of the United States Department of Agriculture.

There are three kinds of evidence against the belief in telegony. They are:

First, that we have not been able to produce effects of telegony in experimental breeding.

Second, that the physical mechanism of inheritance which has been found does not appear to offer any means whereby telegony could be brought about.

Third, that all the reported cases of telegony can be much better explained as cases of "reversion," which is a perfectly definite well known process

resting upon a definite physical basis.

The Rambouillet breeders are to be congratulated upon having freed themselves of a useless and troublesome rule. Under that rule, if a scrub ram broke into a breeder's flock of ewes some night every ewe in that flock which might have been served by that ram was virtually reduced to the condition of a grade. Henceforth, if that should happen, the breeder will only have to discard the lambs which are born at such a date that may have been sired by the scrub ram. At the worst, he will only lose one year's use of his ewes, instead of their entire pure-bred value, as was the case under the old rule. Of course, it was doubtless true that many breeders ignored the old rule, believing that it was useless, but such action is quite undesirable, because it comes close to the border of dishonesty, if it does not actually cross it, and the breeder's honesty is the foundation upon which all pedigree values rest.

The suggestion is also made that the rule served as a sort of club to discourage breeders from cross-breeding, but it does not appear to have been worth much for that purpose. The breeder who has good stock is not apt to cross-breed, and if the breeder with poor stock crossbreeds, there is little or no loss to the breed anyway.

It is to be hoped that the other sheep breeders' associations which may have similar rules will take steps to remove them just as the Rambouillet breeders have done. Let the good work go on.

Jay L. Lusk.

Texas Experiment Station.

BLACKBIRDS FOE TO TICKS

I think I have a new one for you—maybe not. I notice the blackbirds picking the ticks from the lambs. Last year the lambs were quite "ticky" the fore part of the season. On the ewe lambs which I kept and sheared, we did not find a single tick. I could not account for it, but now I think I have the reason; therefore I think the blackbird is our friend.

Sacramento, Calif. Dr. J. H. Hammond.

With the State Associations

The Nevada Convention

Cattle and sheep raisers to the number of 250 assembled at Elko for the annual convention of the Nevada Land and Live Stock Association on December 19 and 20.

Affairs of taxation and grazing lands were to the front in convention addresses, and lobby and committee room discussions.

President Russell's address dealt largely with taxation and range problems. President Hagenbarth of the National Wool Growers Association brought a message of hope and encouragement particularly to cattle raisers. He expressed full confidence in early improvement in prices, but insisted that most cattle raisers had much to do in getting their production methods upon a sound and modern basis.

The cooperative plan of marketing range cattle as fostered by the California Cattlemen's Association was explained by R. M. Rice of that association. His presentation received close attention and the officers were requested to give thorough consideration to the California plan as affecting shipments of Nevada cattle to Pacific coast markets.

The lines along which Nevada stockmen are working and the progress being made, are shown by the committee reports and general resolutions printed below.

Mr. E. E. Williams paid a tribute to the late George Russell, father of the president of the association. Other addresses were delivered by Cecil W. Creel, state director of agricultural extension work, and Governor Scrugham. The evening of the first convention day was given over to a banquet for the visitors, at which Morley Griswold acted as toastmaster. Committees were in session following the banquet and a minstrel show given by the Elks was well attended.

Land valuations for taxing purposes were fully gone over by the convention, the secretary showing that in

many cases assessment figures were above actual sale prices. Economy in state expenditures was also called for and Governor Scrugham invited the stockmen to send a committee to the capital to meet with him for consideration of the state budget to be presented to the legislature.

President Russell and Secretary Metcalf were re-elected.

The following committee reports and resolutions were adopted by the convention:

National Forest and Public Range Problem

We, the stockgrowers and ranchers of Nevada, assembled in annual convention this 20th day of December, 1924, at Elko, Nevada, reaffirming the position taken at our last annual convention, respectfully but insistently urge, the absolute need for a comprehensive study of the whole problem involved in a stable and economic use of the public ranges, including both the summer ranges which have been included within national forest withdrawals, and those of our other seasonal ranges remaining upon the public domain, by the ranching and stockraising industry by an impartial fact-finding commission, such departures as the proposed commercial exploitation of the feed values upon the forest summer ranges being held in abeyance until the results of such a study as that proposed may for the first time, be had.

In view of the fact that Nevada has almost one-third the remaining public domain, we feel that this state is entitled to representation in such a study as that proposed.—F. B. Stewart, J. H. Eager, J. M. Walsh.

Tariff

We, your committee on tariff, beg leave to submit the following report:

That the Nevada Land and Livestock Association at this sixth annual convention, December 19 and 20, 1924, do hereby endorse and urge adequate tariff protection on live stock and live-stock products. Owing to the deplorable condition of the cattle industry, we urge particularly a tariff on hides and non-edible fats.

That this convention assembled, realizing the importance of adequate tariff protection, authorize and instruct our association officials to compile data and forward recommendations, urging further tariff, to the President's special agricultural fact-finding commission, and that if the judgment of our association officials deem it advisable, one or more qualified delegates be authorized to press such legislation before commissions, departments and our Congress. We feel that this protection is a matter of vast importance to our cattle industry and a reasonable tariff will ultimately add a range from \$5 to \$10 per head on beef cattle.

We also express our desire that the tariff on sheep and wool products be maintained. We urge legislation by Congress to require labeling of woolen goods so as to show the

amount of shoddy, silk, cotton and other fabrics which they contain.

We further desire that copies of our association findings be forwarded to Congressmen and Senators, urging favorable tariff legislation on live stock, and live-stock products.—T. F. Brennen, R. B. Stewart, H. K. Harvey.

Review of State Boards of Stock and Sheep Commissioners

We, your committee appointed at the last annual convention for the purpose of reviewing the work of the State Boards of Stock and Sheep Commissioners, take pleasure in reporting that this matter has been gone thoroughly into, the findings being as follows:

Stock Commission

That the affairs of the Stock Commission are generally handled in an efficient and economical manner.

That the overhead expense is not excessive.

That the automobile costs have been no higher than those incident to private businesses.

That the commission's work along theft control lines justifies the continuance of this expense at least for the present. That matters concerning field work in animal disease control can safely be left to the discretion of the board, which can be expected to make such changes in policy, organization, etc., as to best suit the public welfare as rapidly as conditions permit.

That expenses for paying indemnities to owners of animals condemned and destroyed under the work of the board has materially decreased and may be expected to further decrease in the near future to a point where such expense will be rather immaterial.

Sheep Commission

A detailed investigation of the activities of the Sheep Commission has also been made, and your committee is convinced that the administration of its affairs in all branches is thoroughly economical and efficient and entitled to the full commendation of all interests concerned.

All officials of both boards are commended for their hearty and effective cooperation in assisting with the study made by the committee.

The detailed data and statistics gathered by the committee in its study of the work of the boards is, of course, too voluminous to be included in such a report as this, but effort will be made to place detailed information before the stockgrowers generally, in this connection, through the use of the association monthly, the Nevada Stock-grower. All interested are both urged and invited to take up with the association office any detailed matter in this connection.—R. H. Cowles, R. C. Turritin, Vernon Metcalf.

Cooperative Cattle Marketing

We, your committee appointed to report on cooperative marketing of cattle, beg leave to submit the following:

We favor the principles of cooperative cattle marketing and recommend that the Nevada Land and Livestock Association give its most thorough attention and consideration to the cattle marketing plan of the California Cattlemen's Association.—W. C. Pitt, J. B. Garat, J. G. McGowan.

Cooperative Wool Marketing

We, the committee on cooperative wool marketing, recommend to the Nevada wool growers the plan of the Pacific Cooperative

Wool Growers of Portland, Oregon, and San Francisco, California, as an agency through which to market our wools.

We further recommend that this association appoint a standing committee of three to act as an advisory committee for the wool growers of the state of Nevada for the purpose of further investigation and action in marketing our wools cooperatively.—J. D. Yeager, E. L. Williams, W. F. Dressler.

Predatory Animal and Rodent Control

As predatory animals and rodents are still a considerable menace in the state of Nevada to stockgrowers and farmers, we, the committee, recommend the following:

That we continue the fight against them as in the past in cooperation with the U. S. Biological Survey, which we believe is by far the most satisfactory way.

We believe the bounty system to be too expensive for the results obtained and recommend no action in this line.

We further recommend the cooperation of the stockgrowers in obtaining the best available men for service in poisoning and trapping these animals. Also, we recommend that if any reduction is made in the state appropriation toward the eradication of predatory animals, that the proceeds from the sale of furs be placed in this fund.

We believe that a program as stated above is by far the best for the people interested in the campaign against the predatory animal.—John H. Carter, Chairman.

Finance and Organization

We, the committee on finance and organization, have examined the books of the Nevada Livestock Association and of the Nevada Stockgrower and find that all accounts balance, and recommend that the secretary's accounts be approved.

Items of traveling expenses for the president and the secretary were inspected and we heartily recommend that these officers be especially commended for their economic policy throughout.

In view of the fact that for the coming year the income for the association will in all probability fall short of the ordinary expenses, some method for raising revenue seems necessary.

Every member of the association must thoroughly realize the importance of this organization. Its results are obvious, and as an organization, collectively and individually, there is need for concerted effort by every member to strive for a healthy existence, an existence of financial dignity.

We therefore recommend and persistently urge every member to advertise the benefits of the organization. Get more members.

We believe that the members can and should assist the secretary in securing new advertisers for our association monthly, the Nevada Stockgrower.

Further, whereas, the support of the Nevada Stockgrower has been attributed largely to its list of advertisers, we hereby pass a resolution of thanks to the various firms which have so generously assisted, and we ask the stockmen to see that our advertisers be as generously patronized.

Subscribe to the Stockgrower and read it.—E. R. Marvel, H. C. Stock, H. F. Dangberg.

Exchange of Railroad Lands in Stock Driveways

Whereas, the Central Pacific Railway Company has laid before this convention a plan whereby its lands now embraced in certain stock driveways as laid out under the authority of Sections 10 and 11 of the Act of Congress approved December 20,

1916, may be surrendered to the United States in order that they may permanently remain in such stock driveways and in lieu thereof the company may select and receive patents for other vacant, unreserved, surveyed, non-mineral public lands of equal value in Nevada within the limits of its land grant and outside the exterior limits of any stock driveway, Therefore, be it

Resolved, that this convention endorses and approves this plan of exchange and requests that Senators and Congressmen cooperate in the effort to secure the appropriate congressional legislation for the accomplishment of the exchange.—C. W. Griswold, S. G. Lamb, George D. Banks.

Committee on Market Reports and Information

Your committee reports as follows:

We recommend and wish to encourage the publishing of market information in the Nevada Stockgrower.

We recommend full use of and complete cooperation with the Market News Service of the United States Department of Agriculture Bureau of Economics, from which we obtain authentic daily live-stock and wool markets from the yards, packers and warehouses. and in turn, we advise the forwarding of local information to that bureau. From an actual profitable demonstration in Elko County during 1924 we recommend that the stock yard quotations be supplemented by reports of actual local sales made, stating weight and quality, with the name of the grower and the yards or packer and point of delivery, particularly in the case of lambs or wool. We invite and urge stockmen to report immediately all sales, giving the above desired information, to afford comparison in order to estimate relative values on this local information.

We recommend that the County Extension Agents disseminate this information and for such counties as have not a Farm Bureau the Nevada Livestock Association and University Extension Department together work out the best possible means of informing such districts.

We present these recommendations for your approval and endorsement at this, the sixth annual meeting of the Nevada Land and Livestock Association.—C. H. Reinken, C. S. Tremewan, Jose J. Berrueta.

Endorsement of C. W. Creel

We, the stockgrowers and ranchers of Nevada, assembled in annual convention at Elko, Nevada, this 20th day of December, 1924, under the auspices of the Nevada Land and Livestock Association, hereby most heartily endorse and urge upon those in authority the appointment of C. W. Creel to the vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of Agriculture in the U. S. Department of Agriculture. We feel that Nevada is entitled to recognition in this matter and that Mr. Creel is particularly qualified, through his education, training, and experience, to represent not only the interests and needs of agriculturists and stockgrowers generally, but the public interests as well.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease

We, the stockgrowers and ranchers of Nevada, assembled in annual convention at Elko, Nevada, this 20th day of December, 1924, wish to express our sincere commendation and appreciation of and for the action of our Governor, Hon. James G. Scrugham, the commissioners of our Stock and Sheep Boards, the State Live Stock Sanitary officials, the officials of the United States Bureau of Animal Industry, the railroad transportation companies, and the

people of the state as a whole, in the prompt, effective and highly successful steps which were taken as a result of which the foot-and-mouth scourge making its appearance during the past year in our neighboring state was prevented from gaining a foothold in Nevada. Our thanks and the thanks of the state, we feel, are also due in large measure to the press of Nevada, which as a unit, aided so materially in this work. We feel that not only the stock raising and ranching industry, but the economic life of the state as a whole has, by the above steps, been saved what might easily have been a most serious economic disaster, and especially noteworthy in addition, that everything within reason was done to avoid any unnecessary hardship upon any interest in any manner related to this problem.

Resolution of Appreciation

The thanks of the stockgrowers and ranchers of Nevada are hereby publicly expressed for the reception of the people of Elko in connection with our annual convention, held in that city, December 19-20, 1924. Especially do we desire to express our sincere appreciation for the banquet and entertainment furnished the delegates and guests by the Elko Lions Club, Elko business men and by the Homemakers' club to the visiting ladies. We also wish to thank the Elko press for its assistance in promoting the convention through publicity in its columns and to the hotels and others who so carefully looked after the matter of accommodations, as well as to those whose counsel and assistance in addressing our convention so helped toward its success.

Legislation and Taxation Committee

Upon motion regularly made, seconded and adopted, President Russell was authorized to appoint a committee of three to represent the association in conference with the governor and other public officials regarding preparation of the budget for presentation to the coming legislature, and concerning matters relating to legislation and taxation in Nevada generally.

MARYLAND FARMERS BUY IDAHO HAMPSHIRE

There is a very strong drift in eastern states toward the development of a larger sheep industry. Farm lands in Maryland and neighboring states are not suitable to the production of heavy grain crops to be used in the feeding of swine and beef cattle. These lands, however, produce good forage crops and have excellent advantages in nearness to markets for early lambs. The long growing season and heavy rainfall assure a maximum of forage and pasture crops, and where proper rotation of pastures is observed flocks can be maintained in healthy condition. The returns from the dairy industry in this section have been disappointing of late, especially in view of the large amount of labor involved.

The Agricultural College of Mary-

land recently inaugurated a plan of developing the state's sheep industry. As an aid to a number of farmers contemplating establishment of flocks, Prof. B. E. Carmichael recently selected 100 head of registered Hampshire ewes from the flock of Chas. Howland, Cambridge, Idaho. These ewes were distributed among several farmers, who are reported as having been highly pleased with their Idaho Hampshires.

RAMBOUILLET BREEDERS' ANNUAL MEETING

The regular annual dinner and meeting of the American Rambouillet Sheep Breeders' Association was held Wednesday evening, December 3rd, at 6:30 at the Stock Yard Inn, Chicago, Ill.

President Joe H. King, Laramie, Wyoming, presided. About seventy-five breeders and friends were present.

The secretary's report showed a balance of \$12,103.82 in bank.

A number of matters came up for discussion and among other things the meeting went on record as unanimously requesting the International management to restore the Rambouillet wether classes to the coming 1925 show.

Election of officers resulted as follows:

President—F. N. Bullard, Woodland, California.

Vice-President—John W. Ellis, Molino, Missouri.

Secretary—Dwight Lincoln, Marysville, Ohio.

Treasurer—John E. Webb, Indianapolis, Ind..

Directors—Joe H. King, Laramie, Wyoming; John K. Madsen, Mt. Pleasant, Utah; Fred Orth, McGuffey, Ohio.

At the meeting of the executive board on Thursday, December 4th, the association appropriations were continued the same for the Chicago International and Portland, Oregon, shows, association appropriations and individual contributions making up \$400 for the American Royal show at Kansas City.

Advertising appropriations remain

the same as last year, with special advertising referred to the secretary.

Dean W. C. Coffey was chosen to judge Rambouillet classes at the 1925 International; John E. Webb, alternate.

John E. Webb was chosen to judge Rambouillets at the American Royal in 1925.

By unanimous consent of the executive committee the secretary's salary was increased to \$4,000.

Dwight Lincoln, Secretary.

SIX PER CENT MONEY FOR WASHINGTON GROWERS

Wool growers in the Yakima Valley are receiving benefits, in the way of cheaper money, from the Agricultural Credits Act of 1923, by which Intermediate Credit Banks were established to finance agricultural marketing and to provide for longer termed loans on live stock than can be made under rules of the Federal Reserve Banks.

Comparatively few banks have chosen to utilize the facilities of the Intermediate Credit Banks, which are also available to incorporated loan companies. Such a company was organized at Yakima, Wash., a few years ago. Its work as already demonstrated and as planned for the future was outlined by Manager J. F. Sears in a recent article in the Yakima Daily Republic.

Extension of the loan service of the Wool Growers' Service corporation on a large scale throughout Washington, Oregon and Idaho, beginning Jan. 1, was announced today by Secretary J. F. Sears.

Commencing on that date, the corporation will advance \$1 per fleece on all unshorn wool to growers operating in the three northwestern states. After the wool is shorn and lodged in the Western Wool Warehouse at Portland, Ore., a government bonded and licensed concern, the corporation will advance to the growers, not to exceed 60 per cent of the appraised value of the wool.

Sheepmen to Get Funds

In both instances, money will be obtained from the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, Spokane. For advances made prior to shearing, 7 per cent interest will be charged and on advances made after the wool has been shorn and stored in the warehouse, 6 per cent interest will be charged.

"This method will give the sheepmen funds for spring expenses and a strong advance on their wool after it has been placed in the warehouse," Sears said. "It also will give them time to market it in an orderly manner, as the mills require it. Portland is regarded as the wool market of the west as Boston is of the east, and mills tributary to Portland consume from 10,000,000 to 15,000,000 pounds of wool annually, approximately half of the production of the three states. In addition, a number of eastern mills have buyers residing at Portland who are in the market for wool continually to fill their mills' requirements.

Wool in Growers' Names

"Wool shipped to Portland under this plan will at all times remain in the name of the grower and subject to his orders. It will remain in the original bags. A sample will be taken, scoured and tested and the grower confidentially advised by the warehouse officials as to the approximate shrink, grade and value of his wool. The appraisal will be made by government licensed men and therefore authentic and correct in every detail. Neither the Western Wool Warehouse Company nor any of its employees are allowed under the warehouse act to buy or sell wool on their own account.

"When the wool is landed in the warehouse, the grower will get a receipt as it is weighed in. When the wool is sold, the grower is paid for the outgoing weights. In many instances, wool will gain enough weight while in storage to pay the carrying charges. Last season Washington sheepmen shipped approximately 600,000 pounds of wool to Portland on this basis. One clip of 15,000 pounds from the Yakima district gained enough weight, due to the moist atmosphere there, to equal 2.3 cents a pound on the entire clip. The wool was sold for 41 cents a pound net. To have netted the grower the same amount on interior weights, it would have had to have been sold at 43.4 cents a pound.

System Recently Developed

"All of the wool shipped to the Western Wool Warehouse last season sold from 5 to 10 cents a pound more than was ever offered at interior points. Many sheepmen regard this method of marketing wool as the only plan yet devised where wool can be sold strictly on its merits at the market price and still remain in the hands of the grower up to the time of the sale."

These arrangements, Sears said, could not have been possible a few years ago. The act of Congress establishing the Federal Intermediate Credit banks less than two years ago and the government warehouse act shortly before provided the means for orderly marketing. The same act authorizing the intermediate credit banks, authorized the organization of livestock companies which could obtain money for the growers. The Federal intermediate credit bank is not permitted to do business directly with the growers, making it necessary for the latter to organize their own companies for that purpose.

"The sheepmen have been the first group of livestock men to take advantage of the new legislation," Sears pointed out. The Wool Growers Service corporation is practically owned by the sheep men.

Growth Held Certain

"It is expected that from 5,000,000 to 10,000,000 pounds of wool will go to Portland

this spring under our arrangements. It is further anticipated that it only will be a matter of years before Portland will be an outstanding wool market with eastern mills buying from its warehouses in annually increasing volume."

A. D. Dunn, sheepman and Shorthorn cattle breeder of Wapato, is president of the corporation, and T. J. Drumheller, Walla Walla sheepman and president of the Washington Wool Growers' Association, is vice president. There are four directors, Archie Prior and T. H. Smith of Yakima, C. H. Anderson, Ellensburg, and Willis Mercer, Prosser, all sheepmen. Mercer is the organization's official appraiser and holds a government license issued by the department of agriculture.

SHEEP CLUBS AND SWEET CLOVER IN MONTANA

The Opheim Sheep Club occupies a unique place in the club work of Montana, not only contributing to the further development of the sheep industry in Valley County, but acting as a potent factor in stimulating the raising of sweet clover in this area.

The club was organized in the spring of 1924 by the county agent, with a five-year program outlined at its inception. The first year each club member was to raise an acre of sweet clover and from one to three orphaned lambs. Each club member raising one acre of sweet clover and at least one orphan lamb was to receive in the fall of 1924, five three-year-old Rambouillet bred ewes.

The club has a two-fold purpose, the first of which is to introduce sweet clover on the farms in northern Valley County. Each of the club members is instructed by the county agent on how to prepare his seed bed and the seeding of the acre of sweet clover. The scattering of thirteen one-acre fields of sweet clover in the one community will go a long ways towards proving the value of sweet clover on the farm. The success of the club members with sweet clover this year has already been noticed by many and numerous inquiries have been made by adjoining farmers for sweet clover seed for 1925.

The second purpose is to prove that small farm flocks are a paying investment for farmers. A strict cost record is kept by each club member.

Leon Shaw.

A WINTER EVENING SOLILOQUY

It has been zero here in central Ohio for a week, and as I sit by the gas fire I think of the bands of sheep, as I have seen them in the Rockies, and wonder how the poor things are getting along. Readers will recall that where folks have but one horse, or cow, or a "ewe lamb" they prize it highly and lavish affection on it, so the sheepmen of the east, with their little flocks, have sentimental value on theirs, and would be in agony to think of their being compelled to undergo the experiences that western flocks sometimes do.

Here I sit, contentedly, half dreaming of our 250 Delaine ewes in a warm, well ventilated stable, with windows to open or close, with hay mows thirty feet above, and a chute to let down the oats and shelled corn. The stork has begun with a half dozen half-bloods and her contribution will be about 125, after which she will go elsewhere for a month and then return with about that number of fine lambs.

There is light and water to turn on, wards 4x4 to put ewes and lambs in; if needed, a room in the corner with a gas stove for heat and warm water to make the turn on weakly fellows, and a bench with blankets on it for the watcher to snooze, if so disposed. If anything more is needed, we can't think of it. It is our pleasant duty to be kind to animals, and it pays.

There is a smaller barn for the select one and two-year-old ewes to keep up the flock, and another for a hundred fine wethers sheared. The four old coarse wooled, and six fine wooled rams bunk in part of a big chicken house and all run out during the day to nip grass and fodder. The drought gave us some poor corn, so they get that, too, to husk and shell. I know of no nicer sight than to see sheep circled around fodder sheaves, eating as if out of mangers on the snow.

We keep loaded with sheep to the capacity of the pasture, hay, corn and oat ground of our 200 acres. All our purchased feed amounts to a ton of

bran and half that of oil meal, although salt, of which they clean a barrel out of their boxes in two or three weeks, should be included. The receipts annually are 250 of four-months-old half-blood lambs, sheared fine wool wethers, and cull ewes. Then there is a little over two tons of the highest priced wool.

Few other sales are made except about 1,000 bushels of apples and peaches, and from what we can grasp of the outlook, to furnish nice employment all year, save hiring, machinery, fertilizers, freight and conserve fertility there could be no better program. During the last of the 60's it was "Go west, young man," but circumstances fastened me here. The same economy and application might have given me a band, or bands there, but happiness is about equally divided, and I close this soliloquy by saying that the man who applies himself, east or west, has plenty to be thankful for.

W. W. Reynolds.

COLORADO MIGRATORY LIVESTOCK LAW RULED OUT

The 1923 legislature of Colorado enacted a law the apparent purpose of which was to exclude live stock owned in other states from grazing on public lands located in Colorado. This law applied with particular force to sheep owned in eastern Utah. Considerable numbers of Colorado sheep regularly enter Utah for winter grazing on public lands, but the Colorado law makers apparently were determined that under no conditions should outside stock enter their state. The feeling between sheep and cattle interests runs quite high in western Colorado, and the cattlemen were strongly represented in the legislature. Upon appeal to the State Supreme Court a decision was rendered declaring that this law was in violation of the United States Constitution.

The annulled law provided for the issuing of licenses to owners of stock entering Colorado from adjoining states and for advancing payment of

five cents per head for each and every sheep or goat, and twenty cents per head for each and every head of cattle, horses and asses grazed, herded or pastured within any county in the State of Colorado upon the said public range; and further provided, that no license should be issued to the owner or agent of any such migratory live stock for grazing, pasturing or ranging the same in that state upon any public range or public lands if such permit would, in the opinion of the board of county commissioners, be detrimental to the customs and privileges enjoyed by residents of the state.

The other sections of the law provided for collection of the fees by the county sheriff of the first community into which the stock was taken.

The Colorado Supreme Court has set a very commendable example to other legislatures, many of which are inclined to consider that they can exercise jurisdiction over federal lands in a way that interferes with the proper and necessary movement of stock owned in neighboring states. In many cases the state enacting such laws would seriously object to the enforcement of similar provisions by their neighbors.

Rambouillet, Hampshire and Wether Awards at the International

Breeding Rambouillets.

Judge—John E. Webb, Indianapolis, Ind.

Aged Rams (7 shown):

First—King Bros. Co., Laramie, Wyo.
Second—C. S. Arn, Kenton, O.
Third—Ellis Bros., Mexico, Mo.
Fourth—King Bros. Co.
Fifth—C. S. Arn.

Yearling Rams (12 shown):

First—Purdue University, Lafayette Ind.
Second—King Bros. Co.
Third—Ellis Bros.
Fourth—Oklahoma A. & M. College, Stillwater, Okla.
Fifth—C. S. Arn.

Ram Lambs (19 shown):

First—Ellis Bros.
Second—King Bros. Co.
Third—Michigan A. College, East Lansing, Michigan.
Fourth—C. S. Arn.
Fifth—University of Illinois, Champaign, Ill.

Pen of Three Ram Lambs (5 shown)

First—King Bros. Co.
Second—Michigan A. College.
Third—Ellis Bros.
Fourth—C. S. Arn.
Fifth—University of Illinois.

Yearling Ewes (23 shown):

First—Purdue University.
Second—University of Illinois.
Third—Michigan A. College.
Fourth—C. S. Arn.
Fifth—King Bros. Co.

Ewe Lambs (22 shown):

First—Ellis Bros.
Second—King Bros. Co.
Third—Michigan A. College.
Fourth—King Bros. Co.
Fifth—C. S. Arn.

Pen of Three Ewe Lambs (5 shown):

First—King Bros. Co.
Second—Michigan A. College.
Third—Ellis Bros.
Fourth—C. S. Arn.
Fifth—University of Illinois.

Exhibitor's Flock (6 shown):

First—Purdue University.
Second—King Bros. Co.
Third—C. S. Arn.
Fourth—Ellis Bros.
Fifth—Michigan A. College.

Champion Ram:

King Bros. Co. on aged ram.

Reserve Champion Ram:

Purdue University on yearling ram.

Champion Ewe:

Purdue University on yearling.

Reserve Champion Ewe:

Ellis Bros. on lamb.

BREEDING HAMPSHIRE

Judge—E. L. Shaw, Ashley, Ohio.

Yearling Rams (6 shown):

First—A. R. Hamilton, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Second—Anoka Farms, Waukesha, Wis.
Third—Thousand Springs Farm, Wendell, Idaho.

Fourth—Purdue University.
Fifth—Glenn Rooth, Joy, Ill.

Ram Lambs (12 shown):

First—A. R. Hamilton.
Second—A. R. Hamilton.
Third—Thousand Springs Farm.
Fourth—A. R. Hamilton.
Fifth—Thousand Springs Farm.

Pen of Three Ram Lambs (4 shown):

First—A. R. Hamilton.
Second—Thousand Springs Farm.
Third—Thousand Springs Farm.
Fourth—Iowa State College.

Yearling Ewes (19 shown):

First—Thousand Springs Farm.
Second—A. R. Hamilton.
Third—A. R. Hamilton.
Fourth—A. R. Hamilton.
Fifth—Thousand Springs Farm.

Ewe Lambs (17 shown):

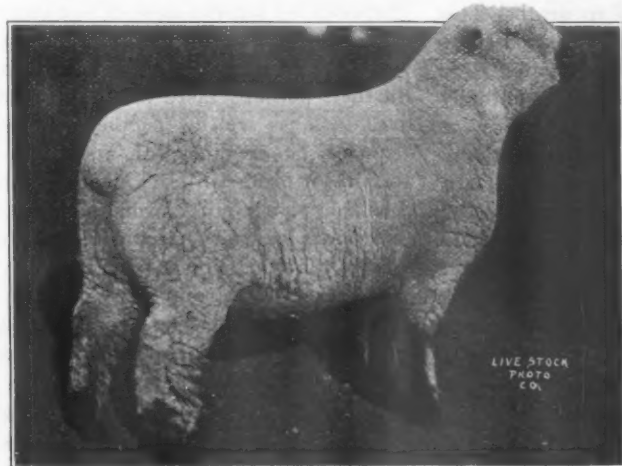
First—Thousand Springs Farm.
Second—A. R. Hamilton.
Third—Thousand Springs Farm.
Fourth—A. R. Hamilton.
Fifth—Thousand Springs Farm.

Pen of Three Ewe Lambs (6 shown):

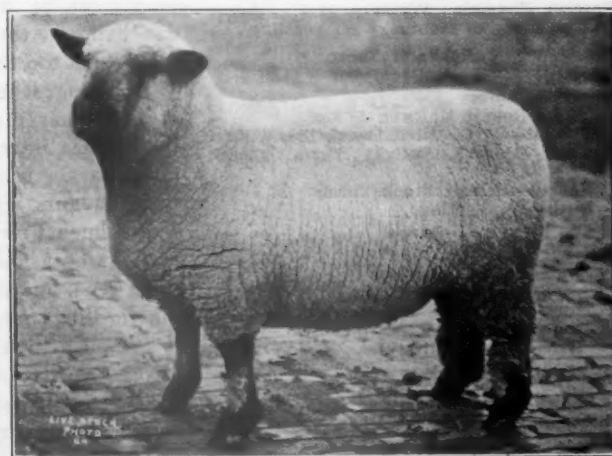
First—Thousand Springs Farm.
Second—A. R. Hamilton.
Third—A. R. Hamilton.
Fourth—B. F. Harris Farm.
Fifth—Purdue University.

Exhibitor's Flock (5 shown):

First—A. R. Hamilton.
Second—Thousand Springs Farm.
Third—Purdue University.



Grand Champion Wether at the International. Won over all breeds. This lamb was shown by the Iroquois Farm of Cooperstown, New York. In the auction it brought 35 cents per pound, weight 121 pounds.

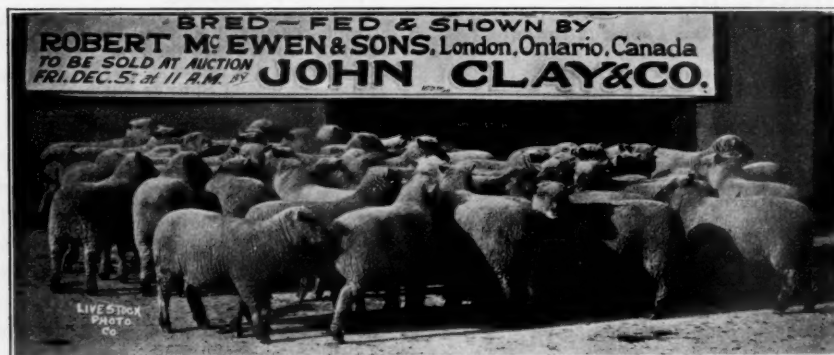


Champion Hampshire Ewe at the International, bred and shown by Thousand Springs Farm, Wendell, Idaho.

Champion Ram:
A. R. Hamilton on ram lamb.
Reserve Champion Ram:
A. R. Hamilton on yearling.
Champion Ewe:
Thousand Springs Farm on yearling ewe.
Reserve Champion Ewe:
Thousand Springs Farm on ewe lamb.

FAT HAMPSHIRE

Judge—E. L. Shaw, Ashley, Ohio.
Yearling Wethers (10 shown):
First—University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky.
Second—University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.
Third—Oklahoma A. & M. College.
Fourth—Michigan A. College.
Fifth—Michigan A. College.
Wether Lambs (20 shown):
First—Thousand Springs Farm.
Second—University of Kentucky.
Third—University of Kentucky.
Fourth—Purdue University.
Fifth—University of Kentucky.
Pen of Lambs (5 shown):
First—University of Kentucky.
Second—Purdue University.
Third—Michigan A. College.
Fourth—University of Wisconsin.
Fifth—Iowa State College.



Grand Champion Carload Fat Sheep, Southdown Lambs, shown by Robert McEwen & Son, London, Ontario, Canada. Sold to Armour & Company at 31 cents a pound. Weight 90 pounds.

Champion Wether:
Thousand Springs Farm on lamb.
Reserve Champion Wether:
University of Kentucky on yearling.

Carloads of Sheep. Natives:

Carloads Lambs:
First—Robert McEwen & Son
Second—W. G. Miles, Evansville, Wis.
Third—Heart's Delight Farm, Chazy, N. Y.
Fourth—Belvoir Stock Farm.
Fifth—W. G. Miles.

Range.

Carloads Yearlings:
First—Roland Doyle.
Second—A. A. Cox, Altona, Ill.
Third—Della Cox, Atlanta, Ill.

Carloads Lambs:
First—Purdue University.
Second—Ray Neal.
Third—Foster Bros., Earlham, Ia.
Fourth—Foster Bros.

Champion Carload:
Robert McEwen & Son, on native Southdown lambs.

Grand Champion Wether of the Show:
Iroquois Farm, Cooperstown, N. Y., on Shropshire lamb.

FORAGE PLANTS ON THE RANGE

Under the title, "Native American Forage Plants," a valuable book has appeared from the pen of Dr. Arthur W. Sampson, formerly and for a number of years director of the Great Basin Experiment Station. The book is divided into two parts. Part I is preliminary and introductory to Part II. Part I begins with a discussion of the food of plants, their constituents and the nutrition of animals. Then follows some information on plant physiology, dealing with the work performed by the different parts of the plant in the life, growth and reproduction of vegetation.

It is shown that plants, like animals, have certain very definite require-

with the lowest forms of plant life, and the soil prepared for higher and higher forms. Plant succession may be either progressive or retrogressive. The former is the natural course. However, through misuse of the range a reversion may occur, and the higher forms and better plants may give way to lower forms, and less desirable plants. Particularly on steep slopes badly depleted of vegetation by overgrazing, the rich surface soil is often lost, making it necessary to build up the soil again before anything but the lower classes of plants can be grown.

The author discusses a highly important subject relative to preferences of foraging animals. The brief discussion of this supplemented by palatability tables must have careful thought if the best use of ranges is to be realized. On certain ranges good utilization is impractical with a single class of stock, since the degree of palatability of a plant often differs with the class of stock, and since many ranges produce a great variety of vegetation. On ranges with vegetation suited to but one class of stock, it may be the wrong class of stock is assigned, and that a different class of stock would get much more value from the forage.

While the experience of some will not allow them to agree with Dr. Sampson's tables showing palatability, this does not prove the author wrong. It is well known that the palatability of species for a given class of live stock may differ greatly for different periods, years, localities and plant associations. Further, perhaps taste in the case of live stock, as well as people, may be acquired. Stock must eat, and in the absence of forage of good quality, will consume plants not considered palatable under ordinary circumstances. It follows that the subject of palatability is one deserving careful study on every range. The author has acquired and presents in this book a lot of good information on the subject.

By far the greater part of the book is given over to the discussion of forage plants, many of the more important plants being given individual treatment. In addition to simple, clear, and

ments. As in the case of animals, plants can be starved to death. This can happen through repeated, too early and too frequent grazing.

The longest lived plant eventually dies, another must take its place, or the species is reduced and eventually disappears. Most of our important forage plants reproduce by seed, and arrangements must, therefore, be made at least occasionally to produce and ripen seed, and it must germinate and the seedlings must be given a chance to establish themselves as new plants.

Next is a treatment of the plant with relation to its surroundings. An intensely interesting and important lot of facts are here given on plant succession or the development of vegetation, showing how a start is made

concise descriptions of each plant, there are excellent photographs, which, with the description, should make ready identification of the plants possible. For each species much data is given on palatability, habits, habitat, distribution and economic importance. Two palatability tables present much information in a brief form. Maps show distribution of each species over the western hemisphere.

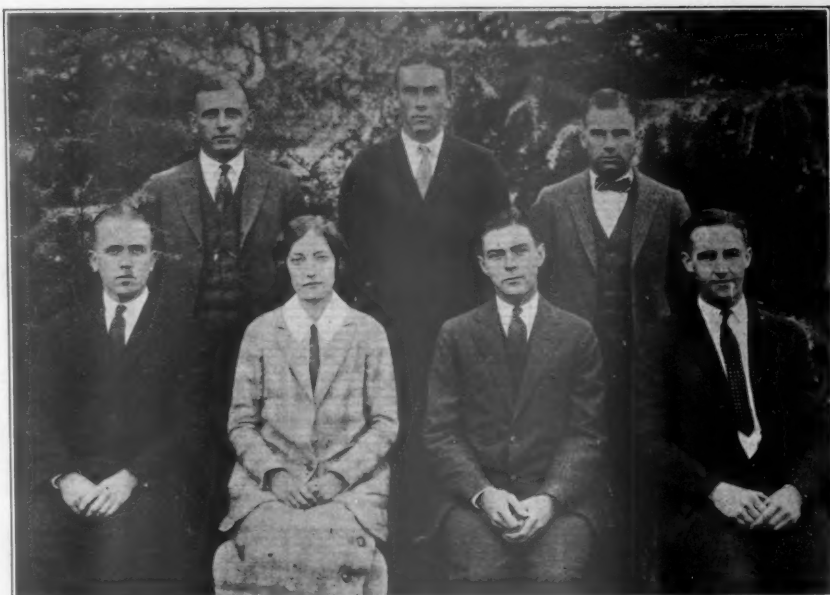
The author divides plants into two classes: (1) Grasses and grasslike plants. The latter includes sedges and rushes. (2) Broad leaf plants. These include both herbs and shrubs, and comprehend all forage plants other than grasses and grasslike plants.

The author has attempted to give common as well as scientific names for each plant described. This will be of considerable benefit to the layman.

Dr. Sampson has obtained his information first hand during the many years of his investigative work on the ranges of the West. He has added to a thorough scientific education unusual powers of observation and untiring energy in the prosecution of his investigations. All of us who have worked with him and known him for years, consider him one of the highest authorities on range problems. As an investigator of these problems, he has no superior. He jumps at no conclusions, but "proves all things."

However far he may go into the fundamentals of range management, he never loses sight of the practical. While he has tried hard to discover the requirements made by plants which must be provided for if the plants are to be perpetuated, nevertheless he has striven equally hard to find a way of meeting those requirements while securing utilization of the forage crop year after year. With him the problem has been "perpetuation with use."

The book will prove interesting and instructive to all engaged in the live-stock industry of the ranges, particularly on the ranges of the West. The information in this and other books of Dr. Sampson, if reasonably applied, will tend to put the range business on a more stable basis by the perpetuation



Live Stock Judging Team, winners of Inter-Collegiate Live Stock Judging Contest at the last Pacific International Live Stock Exposition, Portland. The team was composed of Miss Elizabeth Graves, Davis; John Alstaetter, Bakersfield; C. W. Gilmore, Malvern, Iowa; Mark McDonald, Oakland; J. J. Baumgartner, San Francisco, and Spellman Collins, alternate, Oakland. Prof. E. H. Hughes, the instructor, standing at left.

of the economically important forage plants. One who masters the information in this book will have a pretty good working knowledge relative to the economically important forage plants over a big area, and will understand the fundamentals of good range management. A wealth of valuable information is crowded into this volume.

John Wiley & Sons, publishers, 440 4th Avenue, New York City, are willing to mail free of charge for examination a copy of the book.

C. W. Woods,

United States Forest Service, Intermountain District.

COYOTES RAID TURKEYS

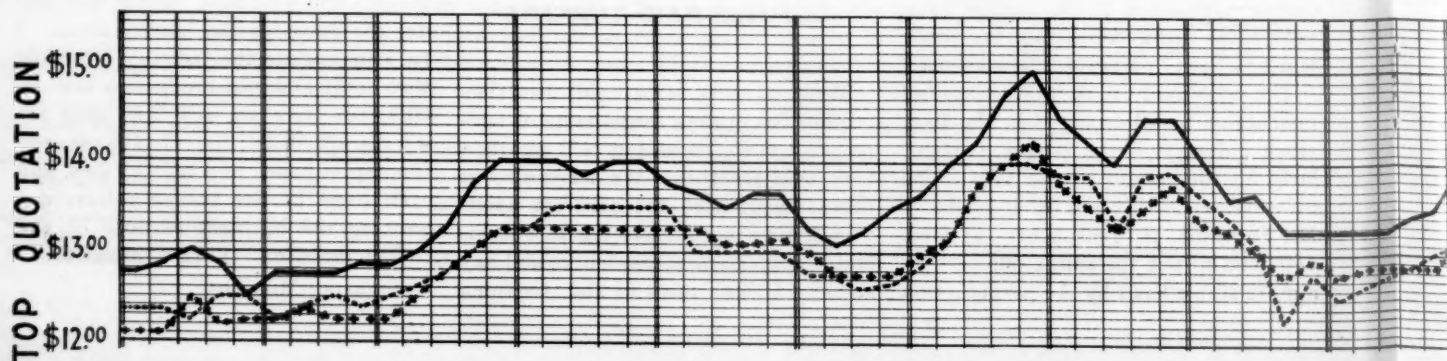
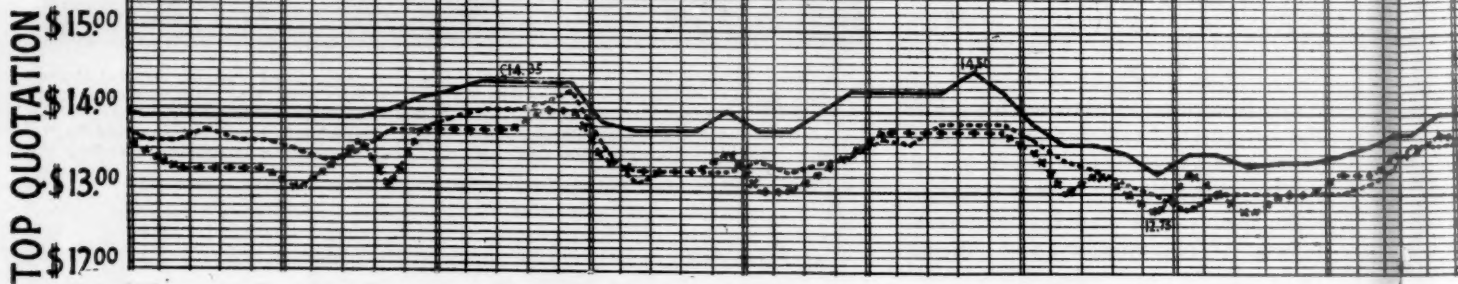
Montana stockmen are just now (December 26) getting a real taste of winter—not much snow, but cold weather, very cold weather. We have also at times experienced the severest winds ever known here, resulting in considerable damage to sheds, fences and hay stacks. I think most of the stockmen

are feeding, but since we all produce our own hay, we think little or nothing of it.

Lately I have seen considerable space in our local as well as our stock papers devoted to predatory animals, which seem to be on the increase. With all due respect to the Biological Survey, and fully realizing that some of their hunters and trappers are showing splendid ability, the field is much too large for any one department to cover, and if the live stock states do not enact substantial bounty laws, our losses are going to be heavy. In this section we have a great many Indians and half-breeds who are expert coyote hunters and who hunt out the does and get the pups for the bounty alone. I fully appreciate the fact that now and then some abuse of the bounty law occurs, but have we any laws that are not disregarded at times? Coyotes are running in bands in some sections, and even some of our turkey raisers are quitting the business because of the coyote menace. J. H. Carmichael.

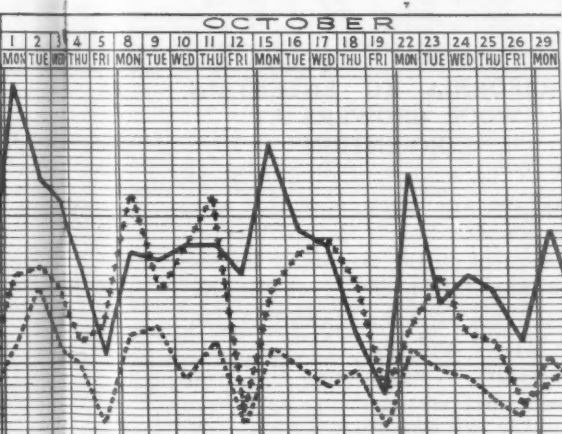
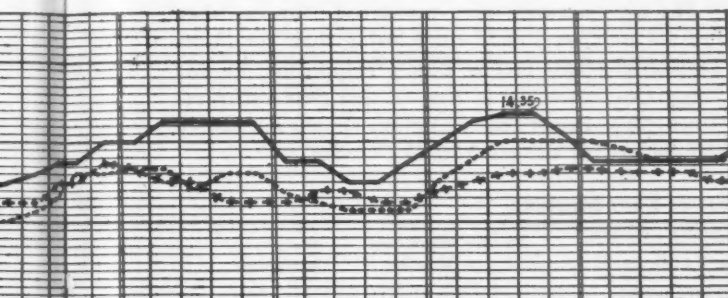
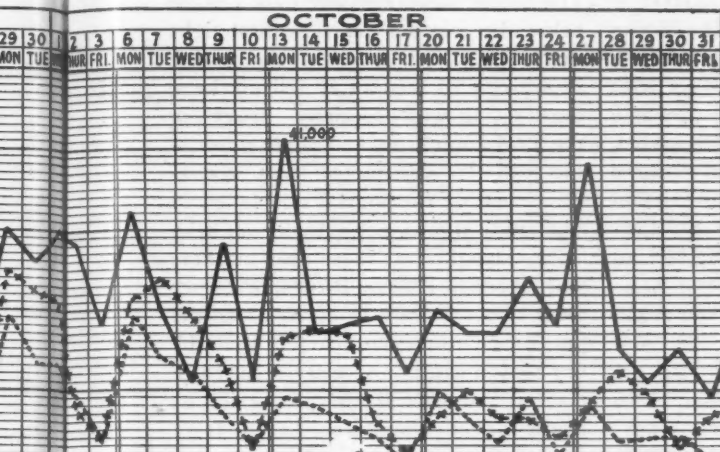
Augusta, Montana.

DAILY RECEIPTS AND PRICES DURING AUGUST, SEPTEMBER AND

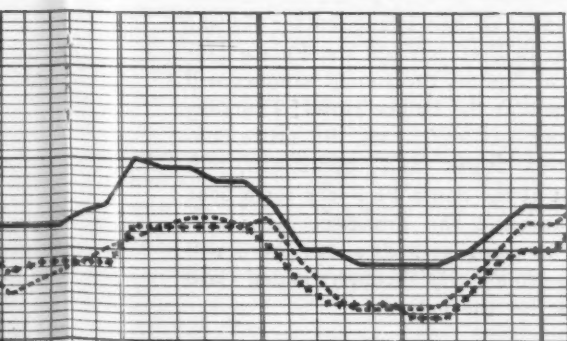


LAMB MARKET IN 1924

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER AT CHICAGO, OMAHA AND KANSAS CITY



1924



1923

Greater Stability in 1924 Prices Result of More Uniform Distribution

A Discussion of What the Chart Shows

The 1924 range shipping season at the three principal markets brought somewhat more stable prices than prevailed in 1923. Quotations for best killing lambs at Chicago ranged between \$13.25 and \$14.50, while in 1923 the range was from \$12.50@15 per hundredweight.

The top figure quoted during August, September and October was 50 cents per hundredweight lower than during the same part of 1923. However, the low figure was 40 cents higher than in the previous year, and examination of the price lines, as charted in the accompanying cut, shows that the daily valuations were by no means so extreme in 1924, and that the general average for the five days' prices during each week of the three months shown was in advance of 1923.

Consumer and retail shop demand for lamb was strong in 1924, the numbers slaughtered during the three months being 13 per cent higher than the year before. Pelt values were also on the rise during a considerable part of this period.

The decrease in the extent of price fluctuations can be attributed in part to greater uniformity in marketing in 1924. August and September shipments were considerably higher and the October shipments lower than in 1923. The total number received at Chicago, Omaha, Kansas City and Denver for these three months was 3,063,000, or 1.3 per cent more than in the previous year. The August shipments, however, were 12 per cent, and the September shipments 18 per cent higher, while the October shipments were 16 per cent lower. The low point of the range season in 1923 was reached in October and extended over a period of two weeks, due to very heavy shipments that were brought to market earlier in 1924. This was no doubt due to seasonal conditions rather than to any planned action on the part of shippers.

Of course hindsight is better than foresight. But hindsight is history. It is a poor business man who does not strengthen his foresight by study of the history, not only of his own outfit, but also of the associated lines with and through which he deals and upon which he is dependent.

Study of sheep markets is one of the ways in which hindsight can be exercised for improvement and development of foresight. In November and December, 1923, the Wool Grower, under the heading "Can Lamb Markets be Stabilized," presented a discussion and a graphic array of the markets of 1922 and 1923. That study which was concluded in the issue of January, 1924, showed the great advantage to be obtained from more uniform, regulated receipts at the big markets and through prevention of excessive peak receipts on Mondays during the season of heaviest shipments from the range in August, September and October. The following were set forth as means by which market receipts might be equalized to secure a greater stability of prices:

- (1) Removal of a part of the feeder supply from the markets at the principal slaughtering points.

- (2) Shipping lambs as fast as they reach marketable condition.
- (3) Diversion of shipments to prevent congestion at any one market.
- (4) Consigning fat lambs to slaughter points rather than to markets from which they must be re-shipped.
- (5) Equalization of receipts through cooperation of commission houses.
- (6) Regulation of dates of loading at points of origin through organization of shippers.

The Omaha and Kansas City markets followed Chicago in much the same fashion as in previous years. However, on Tuesday, September 2, (Monday being a holiday) Omaha had 43,000 sheep as compared with 35,000 at Chicago. Prices declined at both markets, although there was a quoted rise on the same day in Kansas City with receipts of only 8,000 at that mar-

In this period of 1924 there were ten days in which Chicago had 30,000 or more sheep and lambs and one day in which the 40,000 market was exceeded. In 1923 there were also ten days with 30,000 or more and three days in which the 40,000 mark was reached or passed.

In 1923, during the three months' period under discussion prices for top lambs at Chicago fluctuated from \$12.50 to \$15 per hundredweight. The top price quoted for that market was below \$13 from August 2 to August 13, and again from August 18 to 22. It was above \$14 from September 11 to 24. The 1924 Chicago top prices during the same period ranged from \$13.25 to \$14.50 per hundredweight. The top mark was at \$13.90 from August 4 to 13, and ranged from \$14 to as low as \$13.25 between September 15 and October 3. It was above \$14 from October 14 to 24, again from September

three months in the table on this page. The feeder shipments are only 130,789 below the previous year. At first sight this is surprising, in view of the reports of scarcity of feeders at fall markets. Contracting was especially heavy in the 1924 lamb crop, and while most of the stuff so contracted was counted at one of the markets included in this study it was not actually on sale.

The slaughter at these four markets was larger in 1924 by 207,000 or 14 per cent. This appears to corroborate the opinion held in some quarters that the dry season had not actually resulted in material increase in the proportion of lambs in feeder condition. Lambs from the sections where drought was most serious were marketed earlier than usual and before losing their condition. This fact is mainly responsible for the increase in August and September receipts and the lighter supplies delivered at the markets in October.

The Record of Three Months' Business at Four Markets.

	August		September		October		3 Months Receipts		Feeder Shipments 3 Months		Slaughter 3 Months	
	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923
Chicago	360,910	364,622	528,332	478,330	472,973	538,730	1,372,215	1,381,682	404,665	469,205	822,564	722,839
Omaha	339,459	265,512	552,873	422,362	254,016	424,420	1,146,348	1,110,294	616,084	633,181	449,306	393,834
Kansas City	131,628	117,857	276,154	219,021	170,380	215,343	575,162	552,221	222,454	256,039	311,782	271,664
Denver	60,386	48,117	237,306	220,949	668,569	707,032	966,261	976,098	660,117	675,684	50,565	39,031
TOTAL	892,383	794,108	1,594,665	1,340,662	1,565,938	1,865,325	3,062,986	3,020,295	1,903,320	2,034,109	1,634,217	1,427,358

ket. On Monday, September 8, Omaha again exceeded Chicago's receipts with 36,000, as compared to 23,000 at Chicago. Chicago's top prices held steady on that day, while Omaha advanced 25 cents. On the next Monday, September 15, Omaha again had 38,000, which was 5,000 more than at Chicago, and there was a decline in price at both markets. Ordinarily price changes at Omaha, and Kansas City followed those at Chicago as in previous years.

The apparently controlling influence of the Chicago market was again shown on October 13, with receipts of 141,000, top quotations dropped 50 cents. Omaha had only 27,000, the lightest Monday receipts at that market since August 11. Quotations held steady, while Chicago lost 50 cents. Apparently the peak of the load delivered at Chicago might have gone elsewhere and permitted steady markets at all points.

4 to 12, during which period \$14.50 was reached. The \$14 mark was again recorded on October 3 and held until the 10th of that month. That figure was once more established on October 20, and a price of \$14.35 reached for October 3 to 24. From that time on receipts were smaller, more uniform and prices steadier.

All Sheep Business at 64 Markets for 1924 and 1923

The Department of Agriculture reports for the first ten months of 1924 show the following total figures for operations at 64 reported markets:

	1924 10 months	1923 10 months	Differences
Receipts	18,717,489	18,683,337	-0.4%
Slaughter	8,770,561	8,657,465	+1.3%
Total			
Shipments	9,889,989	9,948,130	-0.6%
Feeder Shipments	3,797,966	3,783,314	+0.4%

The monthly receipts, feeder shipments, and slaughter records at the four markets are shown for the

CALIFORNIA TO ENTERTAIN WOOL GROWERS AT CONVENTION

With characteristic California hospitality, the wool growers of that state have completed plans for lavish entertainment of all the visitors at the sixtieth annual convention of the National Wool Growers Association, January 21, 22, and 23.

Secretary Wing informs the Wool Grower that arrangements have been made for the following events: On Wednesday at 1:30 p. m., an automobile tour of San Francisco for visiting ladies will start from the Palace Hotel; at 7 p. m., the annual banquet will be held at the Palace Hotel; Thursday mornin gat 9:30 a. m., the entire convention, ladies and gentlemen, will meet at the Santa Fe Ferry for a boat trip around San Francisco Bay; Friday morning at 9:30 a. m., there will be a trolley trip through Golden Gate Park for the ladies.

CONDITIONS IN CENTRAL OREGON

The fall range was not good in central Oregon. Most of the flocks came in from the ranges two or three weeks earlier than last season and in much inferior condition. Ranges were better in the Klamath district than in other sections of central Oregon.

The rainfall in the Blue Mountain sections was close to normal in October and November, but prior to that it was extremely dry, and sheep that had been on the ranges were not in normal condition. Whether there was stubble or alfalfa pasture available, the situation was, of course, more favorable. There is general indication that the feeding period will be somewhat longer than usual this year in the state as a whole, unless an unusually early spring prevails.

In Deschutes County in central Oregon, there are more lambs on feed than has been the case before in this district, notwithstanding the high price of feeders. Even so, this number is not impressive, compared with better known feeding districts. Bankers inform us that between ten and fifteen thousand head are on feed. These were mostly ten-cent lambs, or very close to it. This district should feed some lambs every year, probably two to three times the number on feed this year. But even the present number is two or three times that of a year ago, and whether or not this is the year to make such a marked increase with the future of this branch of the industry in a new district in view, is a question.

Hay in Deschutes County has been selling from around \$10 to \$13 in the stack, and is being loaded at rail points for \$18.50. Over most of Deschutes County the hay crop was good and a few thousand head of breeding ewes have been brought there for wintering from ranches up and down the creeks and small rivers where lack of irrigation water precipitated a hay shortage.

Somewhat lower hay prices are re-

ported in Baker County, the sales there running very closely around \$10. The Baker ranges have been poor in the hills during the fall, but on the meadows conditions have been very satisfactory. There are no lambs being fed in this district.

Hay prices are high in the Klamath country, recent sales running around \$14 and \$15 in the stack. Many large bunches of hay sold cheaper than this earlier in the season, at which time many of the stockmen were heavy buyers. The hay crop in Klamath County was heavy this year in direct contrast to the crop in practically all of the surrounding districts. The result has been the driving in of large numbers of sheep and cattle. On Tule Lake alone, there are some 75,000 head brought in for wintering. One Cali-

fornia concern is feeding approximately 25,000 lambs on Tule Lake near Merrill. Stubble pasture is excellent in this district. Heavy crops of grain are raised on the new lands brought into use by the constant receding of the lake. There is always a lot of grain lodged and knocked down, which adds to the value of these pastures.

Offers of 40 cents for wool are reported from the Pendleton district, and attempts have been made to contract lambs on the basis of ten cents a pound. Few sales have been made. The buyers seem to be in search of breeding lambs, either fine-wools or crossbreds, which is an indication that the demand for breeding ewes will continue. The inquiry for the fine-wools is more constant. F. L. Ballard.

Corvallis, Ore.

Proper Methods of Cooperative Marketing Demonstrated in Kentucky

Growers Organized to Sell 200 Million Pounds—Their Form of Organization, Its Objects and Results.

By O. B. Jesness

An association with over 100,000 growers on its membership rolls and handling in the neighborhood of \$50,000,000 worth of business annually, is unquestionably entitled to be called a big enterprise. Such is the Burley Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association. This organization was formed in 1921 as a result of widespread dissatisfaction among the growers of Burley tobacco with the results obtained from the marketing of the 1920 crop. The prices of Burley tobacco rose during the war period much in the same way as prices for other products. The average of the Lexington market for the 1919 crop was over \$46 a hundred pounds. The price in prewar years was usually around \$12 a hundred.

A large acreage and production in 1920 resulted from the high prices. Wool growers well remember the slump which occurred in their market during that year. Similar situations arose for some other products and

Burley tobacco turned out to be one of them as the 1920 crop brought an average of only about \$13 a hundred.

The system of marketing employed in selling tobacco was that of loose-leaf auctions. The tobacco when cut is hung up in barns to cure after which the leaves are stripped from the stalks and tied into bundles of 15 to 25 leaves by wrapping a piece of leaf around their stalk ends. These bundles are called hands. Under the auction method of selling, the tobacco is delivered in this form by the growers to loose-leaf warehouses. Here it is packed on tray-like baskets, the amount on each basket ranging from less than a hundred to several hundred pounds. These baskets are arranged in rows on the floor. During the sale, the auctioneer goes on one side of the row and the buyers on the other. The auctioneer keeps up an incessant sing-song or jargon and the sale progresses so rapidly that it is difficult for the uninitiated to make head or tail out of the proceedings. Sometimes as high as 300 baskets an hour are sold in this manner.

Burley tobacco is used almost en-

tirely by domestic manufacturers for chewing and smoking tobacco and cigarettes. Four manufacturers, referred to as the "Big Four," purchase a large proportion of the leaf. The outlets for Burley tobacco are therefore highly concentrated. Under these circumstances, the grower has often felt that his bargaining strength is not on a par with that of the buyers. The blame for the extreme drop in price for the 1920 crop was laid by many at the door of the loose-leaf auction system of selling, and the feeling that the buyers were taking advantage of the unorganized condition of the grower was somewhat general.

The first impulse which surged through the Burley district when the markets for the sale of 1920 crop opened in January, 1921, was to hold the tobacco off the market and organize a movement for the cut-out of the 1921 crop. This did not meet the necessary response so the loose-leaf sales were continued. In the spring of 1921, it was decided to organize a marketing association and the active sign-up campaign was started in the summer. By November 15, 1921, over 50,000 growers had joined the movement.

The plan, in brief, is built on a binding marketing contract running through 1926. The organization is formed without capital stock. Subsidiary warehouse corporations with capital stock own the warehouses. The tobacco of each crop-year is pooled according to grade. An advance is made to the grower upon delivery and final payment is not made until all of the tobacco has been sold. Tobacco for which there is prompt sale may be delivered to buyers in loose-leaf form. Otherwise it is redried and prized into hogsheads for storage until sold.

The association received about 120,000,000 pounds of the 1921 crop. The average price received by the association was \$21.98 per hundred pounds, out of which was deducted \$1.54 per hundred for expenses and for retirement of obligations on warehouses. This was a considerable improvement over the price received the previous year. While the smaller crop and the

improved business conditions played a part, it seems reasonable to believe that the association was an influential factor.

The association received about 200,000,000 pounds of the 1922 crop. Most of this has been sold, but as some remains on hand at the time this is written (March 18, 1924), final returns on that crop are not yet available. Indications point to a somewhat better price than for the previous crop. Some sales of 1923 tobacco have been made, but most of it is in the hands of the association. According to government estimates, the acreage and production of Burley in 1923 were the largest on record and in view of this fact, the price for this crop probably will be lower than for 1922. At any rate the price on the independent market has been several dollars lower than that of 1922.

The development and progress of the Burley Association have been remarkable and its achievements have been heralded far and wide. It is rendering a service for its members in meeting organized buying strength with organized selling strength. Tobacco is being sold on the basis of grade, something which was true only in a rough sense previously. Inequalities and favoritism, which were frequently charged against the loose-leaf auction system, have been largely done away with. Few enterprises are able to live up to all the enthusiastic claims of its ardent supporters. Those who expect to find in the Burley association a release from the influence of economic laws are bound to be disappointed. But that is true of every marketing organization. Many probably have credited it with greater control over prices than it actually possesses. The belief seemed to be somewhat general that the buyers controlled the price previously and that organization would transfer that power to the growers. As time goes on, the growers will appreciate more and more that orderly production must go hand in hand with orderly marketing and that if they over-produce they must expect their organization to have to

accept a lower price and to carry over a considerable surplus. Much of the Burley tobacco is held over for a year or more before it is used. The aging process is said to improve the quality and also aids in maintaining uniformity in brands since tobacco from two or more years may be blended.

While the Burley association is the largest and apparently the strongest tobacco association, it is not alone. The tobacco growers of the Carolinas and Virginia have a similar association with a membership almost as large. The growers of dark tobacco in western Kentucky and Tennessee also have a large association. These two associations started operations with the handling of the 1922 crop. Growers of cigar leaf in the Connecticut Valley, in Wisconsin and in Ohio have similar associations. Tobacco growers in Maryland and Louisiana are organized, making tobacco one of the best organized farm commodities of the country.

A LAMB CROP OF 150 PER CENT

I have read the article "Making the Lamb Crop Larger" in the November Wool Grower, and was interested in the lambing percentages as recorded from the different states and note that you request reports from others.

We only have a few sheep on the farm, and their record follows: Ewes bred in the fall of 1923, 68; number on hand spring of 1924, 68. Ewes not lambing, 2; number of lambs marked, 102; per cent of lambs marked, 150.

Of the sixty-six ewes that lambled forty-one gave birth to twins, one gave triplets and twenty-four one lamb each, making 109 in all, seven of which had died by marking time.

The triplets were all ewe lambs. They were dropped February 13th, a month earlier than we intended, and their total weight at this date, November 28th, is 288 pounds, an average of ninety-six pounds. One of these we raised by hand, and never sucked the ewe. She was the largest at birth and now weighs 103 pounds. The other two weigh 92 and 93 pounds.

Garrison, Montana. Geo. W. Dana.

HAMPSHIRE BREEDERS MEET

Members of the American Hampshire Sheep Association met in their thirty-fifth annual session at Chicago on December 3rd.

The treasurer's report showed that the association was in good financial condition. One hundred forty-eight new memberships were issued during the year, and 14,046 pedigree certificates were applied for. The total income was \$9,703, which was \$800 above expenses. The balance added to the surplus brought the total in the treasury of the association to \$7,783.

The report of the Special Committee on Registration, which committee was appointed at the last annual meeting, was before the meeting. This report was received early last year by the executive committee, but had not been acted upon by the association itself. The full report of this committee was printed in the July issue of the National Wool Grower. Under final consideration last month sections 1, 3, 5 and 6 of the report were adopted. The section relating to compulsory notches of sires and lambs was withdrawn by the committee. There seemed a wide difference of opinion regarding the Moyer tag. This make of tag had been used by the association for its label on 1924 lambs. It was finally agreed to continue the use of this tag for at least another season.

After some discussion a committee was appointed to recommend to the next annual meeting a plan for flock registration of Hampshires along lines similar to those in use in the English association. This plan, if adopted, would in no way affect or alter the present method of registration in stud flocks.

Prior to the meeting rumors were in circulation regarding a possible shake-up of official ranks. Dissatisfaction had arisen over the attitude of Secretary Tyler toward the report of the Committee on Registration. It was also stated that the secretary and some of the vice-presidents held conflicting views as to the functions of the secretary's office. When the proxies were

counted it was found that a large number were in the hands of the present secretary. The entire list of old officers was re-elected, as follows:

President, Wm. F. Renk, Sun Prairie, Wis.; vice-president, Robert Blastock, Filer, Idaho; vice-president, Dr. H. C. Gardiner, Anaconda, Montana; vice-president, A. R. Hamilton, Pittsburgh, Pa.; vice-president Mrs. Minnie W. Miller, Salt Lake City, Utah; vice-president, Dr. W. H. McLaughlin, Raphine, Va.; secretary-treasurer, Comfort A. Tyler, Detroit, Mich., auditors, A. G. Wood, Brighton, Mich.; Bess B. Klein, Detroit, Mich.

The association also adopted an official description and excellence for Hampshire sheep. A committee was appointed to interview the management of the International Exhibition with a view to obtaining larger prices at the show.

A MONTANA VIEW OF THE WOOL SITUATION

Quoting "the best posted wool men" as saying that there will be demand for every bag and bale of wool available at prices even higher than offered now, B. C. White, well known Buffalo grower, recently issued a statement in which he expressed the opinion that it is a losing transaction for a wool grower to contract his 1925 clip now. In his statement, Mr. White reviews matters affecting the wool trade and quotes authorities located in various world wool centers.

"In Montana last week, 50 cents was paid for wool," says Mr. White, "and in Oregon contracting has started at 43 and 44 cents. In Utah 50 cents is reported paid and 50 cents or better is reported to have been received by Arizona growers for some of their best clips. The price paid in Portland, Ore., last month for the Van Deusen clip was 55½ cents, for a medium clip. All the owner was offered for this clip last spring was 34 cents.

"Since the opening of the London auctions, prices have advanced. South American markets are high and strong.

At a sale at Christchurch, New Zealand, on November 29, some of the finer crossbred wools shrinking 36 and 37 percent sold at 85 and 86 cents in the grease; that is to say unscoured wools. The best posted men in the wool trade say that there will be demand for every bale and bag of available wool at even higher prices than now prevailing, and that there is foreseen the possibility of spindles and looms being idle because of lack of enough wool to go around.

"Germany is now buying a good deal of wool. The fellows who came into the west and contracted wool around 40 and 43 cents are releasing their contracts and taking a substantial profit, mostly from manufacturers. Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces, Delaine unwashed, are quoted at 70 cents; half blood combing, 69 and 70 cents; three-eighth blood combing, 68 and 70 cents; quarter blood combing, 69 and 70 cents, Montana and similar wools, scoured basis, fine staple choice \$1.60 to \$1.70. Wools of this class, shrinking 60 per cent, sell in the grease at Boston and Philadelphia at 66 and 68 cents; half blood combing, \$1.50 and \$1.55 or 60 and 62 cents; three-eighth blood combing, \$1.30 and \$1.35 or 52½ and 54 cents; quarter blood combing, \$1.15 and \$1.25 or 46 and 48 cents.

"Most of the Montana wools grade fine and half-blood. The shorter fine wools grade clothing. The wool trade insists that there is a shortage of fleece and Territory wools and there evidently is. With a shortage of sheep and wool the world over, it appears to me in the light of what has transpired that it is a losing transaction for a wool grower to contract his wool now. As yet we have hardly started into the winter and clothing dealers are short of supplies. Textile mills are having a good business and the goods business is going strong."

With an abundance of feed in the country the recent cold weather had brought in no reports of any losses or suffering on the part of live stock in this region of the state.

Billings, Mont.

Leon Shaw.

MONTANA AND WYOMING VIEWS ON COYOTE CONTROL

Montana

We read with interest everything written by various individuals in "Around the Range Country." We feel very strongly that we are not getting a square deal on the coyote question. They are increasing rapidly in this section and doing plenty of damage. Our losses in the last six months will approximate \$1,500. We have a government trapper in this district, who spends just enough time on the job to hold it down and draw his salary. The remainder of his time is spent attending public sales and "gaping around," and still the department at Billings stands for it. Appeals have been made to that office for help and they promised aid readily enough, but so far they have not made good.

We believe that some attention is given to the Buffalo Park near here, but none whatever to the summer range. If we could even get poison, we could do a great deal ourselves to exterminate these pests, but the Billings office so far will not let us have it.

Much wool has been contracted in this vicinity at around 40 cents. Our own and a few clips in the Deer Lodge Valley remain uncontracted.

We have had a favorable fall here and sheep are doing well. There was one heavy fall of snow from November 5 to 10, but it all went off. The weather is mild and green grass comes right along.

Lydia Buckhouse.

Arlee, Montana.

Wyoming

I have been asked to write and give you my opinion of the actual worth of the present system for control of coyotes and other predatory animals as against the old bounty system. While I am not now in the sheep business, I think I am as able as anyone else to give some reasons why I don't think the Biological Survey is efficient, at least in this section. I shall give a few reasons, and also offer a few suggestions.

First: There are too few hunters ade-

quately to cover the country. Also, the cost per animal is far too much.

Second: There are at the present time fully three times as many coyotes in this district as there were at the close of the bounty system and at the real beginning of the present system. In fact it looks as though the Biological Survey at present is more of a protection to predatory animals than otherwise.

Third: It can be proven that there have been men sent by the inspector into districts where there were local or bounty men, paid by the stockmen, who were highly efficient and made as good or better showing than the hunters sent by the Biological Survey to string poison. This is done evidently for the sole purpose of running out the bounty men. When they had made it so it was no longer profitable for the bounty men to work, they would cease.

Fourth: The inspector in charge has either discharged or made it so disagreeable that some of their oldest and most efficient men, men with the highest number of animals taken to their credit, were compelled to leave the service.

Fifth: Since the department has stopped county agents from handling coyote poison made under the government formula, it would appear that they are trying to monopolize the hunting of predatory animals, or at least place the stockmen in such a position that in order to get relief from depredations from coyotes they are compelled to call on the department for help, which, in dozens of cases, is not rendered, either because of the shortage of men or from other causes.

Sixth: The small stock owners or others that do not or can not furnish hunters with equipment, such as horses, board, feed and a place to live, are given little if any assistance whatever.

I would like to offer the suggestion that either the state or the government, or both together, put a bounty of say \$10 on grown coyotes and \$5 on pups during the summer season, or from May 1 until October 1. It would

not be necessary to pay it in the winter, as at the present price of hides, there is a good wage to be made by a trapper on the furs. I believe that with such a system, say in five years, coyotes would be almost cleaned out, as there would be practically no pups raised and they would be trapped and hunted in summer as well as in winter, where at the present time no one will bother a den unless they own sheep, as they figure on catching them in the winter when hides are worth from \$8 to \$12.

Chas. A. Freel.

Gillette, Wyoming.

AN OREGON DEMONSTRATION OF WOOL IMPROVEMENT

Cost of production studies covering many lines of agriculture have shown that a small increase in the yield per unit results in a much larger increase in the profit per unit. If, for instance, it takes an average ten pounds of wool per fleece to produce the wool and the average fleece weight in a band of sheep is eleven pounds, the profit is one pound per sheep. If this can be increased to twelve pounds per sheep, or an increase in total production of a fraction over 9 per cent, the resulting increase in profit is 100 per cent. To put it another way, assuming that the cost of production averages ten pounds of wool per sheep, if a band of 1,000 sheep shears eleven pounds, as much profit can be made with 500 sheep shearing twelve pounds, with a very marked reduction in the invested capital and risk involved.

To demonstrate that it is possible to increase the average fleece weight by culling out light shearers, H. A. Lindgren, Oregon Extension Livestock Specialist, and the writer this year started a wool improvement demonstration on the W. H. Cleveland band of sheep at Heppner. Weights were taken on 1,191 ewes in this band at shearing time last spring. Mr. Cleveland's sheep are of the Delaine breeding and one of the heaviest shearing bands in eastern Oregon. Purebred high-shearing lambs have been used and the younger ewes of the flock

show very heavy shearing characteristics. The average fleece weights of the 1,191 ewes, including 300 yearling ewes, was 13.34 pounds. An average of 100 yearling fleeces was 12.24. There was as much variation between the different fleeces in the yearling ewes as in the old ewes. The culling standard was set at nine pounds, and only three sheep in the band fell below this standard. However, it was not considered advisable to increase this culling weight this year, as it was an exceptionally favorable wool year. Sheepmen estimate that fleeces averaged from one-half to one and a quarter pounds more than in 1923. The project will be carried on for four more years, and the culling weights will be raised each year. The following is the data worked out from this year's shearing:

Numerical Record of Fleece Weights

Shearing date	May 27-28-29
Total sheep shorn (ewes)	1,191
Culling standard pounds	9
Number shearing below standard	3
Number shearing above standard	1,188
Total wool weight pounds	15,972
Average fleece weight pounds	13.44
Lightest fleece weight—pounds	6
Heaviest fleece weight—pounds	18.7
Number shearing above 10 pounds	1,149
Number shearing from 4 to 4.9	0
" " " 5 to 5.9	0
" " " 6 to 6.9	1
" " " 7 to 7.9	1
" " " 8 to 8.9	2
" " " 9 to 9.9	32
" " " 10 to 10.9	106
" " " 11 to 11.9	193
" " " 12 to 12.9	270
" " " 13 to 13.9	245
" " " 14 to 14.9	156
" " " 15 to 15.9	113
" " " 16 to 16.9	46
" " " 17 to 17.9	11
" " " 18 to 18.9	8
Number of bucks	15
Average fleece weight—pounds	22.14

It will be noted that the variation between the highest and lowest fleeces is about 300 per cent. Even though the fleece weights are averaging high the possibilities in wool improvement are clearly shown. Roger W. Morse.

Sheep Affairs in Australia and New Zealand

By A. C. Mills.

Melbourne, November 15, 1924.

Aside from the northern part of western Australia the pastoral country throughout the Commonwealth is enjoying a most prolific season. Old residents, who have watched the weather and its effects on the grazing industry for up to half a century, say they can seldom remember a similar abundance of feed over such a wide area as there is at present. Frequent storms are keeping grass and herbage green later than usual, and altogether the outlook for the summer, from a sheepman's point of view, is particularly bright. The one cause for anxiety just now is the prevalence of blowflies. These are getting very bad in the warmer districts, and necessitating much extra work in the way of crutching, spraying, etc.

The plentiful supply of feed, combined with abnormal wool prices, is keeping sheep values at a highly profitable level to sellers, whatever may be said of buyers. At this week's auction in the Melbourne yards newly shorn fat crossbred wethers were selling at from \$8.40 to \$8.88, and Merino wethers at \$7.92 to \$8.40 per head. These were just ordinary butcher's lines and

anything special went a good deal higher.

The slight drop in wool prices, recorded in my October letter, has been fully recovered. The values being realized by auction today are as high, if not higher, than at any time this year, or century for that matter. Every selling broker reports wider competition and a particularly healthy tone in the demand. American buyers are especially keen after the better class Merinos and seemingly the sky is their only limit. Japan is keen on comebacks, while British and Continental operators are bidding without prejudice for everything. Quite a number of fresh records as regards prices paid were created this week. For instance, at Geelong two separate lines of Western District of Victoria super combing Merino fleece sold at 91½c. On the same occasion Merino broken fetched 91c and bellies 74½c per pound. Lambs' wool sold at 91c, comeback fleece at 96c, and crossbred fleece at 85½c per pound also in Geelong this week. The record price made in New South Wales for Merino fleece was 90c, for lambs 73½c, Merino pieces 73c, necks 74c, and comeback fleece 87½c per pound.

The same story is told in the other States, and it is quite a poor clip these days if its fancy grades do not fetch well over 40c per pound. A development of the market which has become noticeable lately is the prices being obtained for pieces and bellies in comparison with fleeces, they having advanced much more relatively. Illustrations are given of fleece wools being worth, say, 15 per cent more than a couple of years ago, while the pieces of the same clip have advanced 60 per cent and the bellies 70 per cent.

New Zealand has received further beneficial rains and feed almost everywhere is now in good supply. In fact there is too much green stuff in some districts, and reports are coming through of lambs dying from a surfeit, which sometimes happens in New Zealand in a particularly flush season. It is early yet for most of the packing houses to start slaughtering, but two or three in the North Island have just made a commencement on lambs. Everything points to a busy season, with heavy exports of frozen mutton, as well as of lamb.

Shearing is proceeding quietly in the early districts of New Zealand, although it is being delayed a good deal by broken weather. The question of wages seems to have been settled largely by graziers adopting a non-resistant attitude. It may be remembered that about two months ago the Shearers' Union issued instructions to members not to accept employment at sheds unless a minimum of \$7.20 per 100 was guaranteed, although the Arbitration Court award rate is only \$6 a hundred. There was much talk at the time of owners resisting the demand, but from what I can hear the majority are paying \$7.20, and not a few \$7.68.

December 15, 1924.

Remarkable prices continue to be obtained at auction for raw wool in all centers, new records being established for one grade or another almost every week. True, a slight irregularity was noticed in top marking and certain low grade sorts five or six days ago, but it was largely of a temporary nature

and the position has already been to some extent recovered. Apart from this there has been no hint of weakness, the different sections of the trade eagerly competing for the lines most suited to their individual requirements. In this connection it may be said American buyers have been taking the lion's share of the really super wools offering, although Scottish and Yorkshire spinners have not been far behind. For instance, the record of records, \$1.06½ per pound for Merino fleece wool, paid at Geelong, was the bid of a Yorkshire man. Japan has been buying rather intermittently lately, possibly for financial reasons. On the other hand, Germany has been taking a lot of the skirtings and kindred wools, and is a decided factor in the prices ruling for these.

A notable feature in the sales of the last fortnight has been the general forward movement in all grades of crossbreds. The coarser descriptions in particular have advanced 10 per cent. This is probably due to the extreme value of the fine wools tending to swing the demand over to the relatively cheaper lines.

In addition to the before mentioned \$1.06½ per pound for Merino fleece wool, other auction records established at Geelong since last writing include 96c for Merino lambs, and 80½c for Merino bellies. Geelong, though, is somewhat of a fancy market, and perhaps a better idea of the trend of values can be obtained by giving a brief summary of the prices ruling in Sydney. There best Merino fleece has lately been selling at from 90c to 99c a pound, with one special line to \$1.02. Merino neck wool has fetched up to 81c, pieces to 80c, bellies to 66½c, Merino lambs to 84c, crossbred fleece to 80c, and comeback fleece to 85c a pound. The best recorded price made for scoured wool to date is \$1.41 a pound realized for a western Queensland Merino fleece in Brisbane during the past fortnight.

Statistics prepared by the National Council of Wool Selling Brokers show that 1,496,978 bales of the present Australian clip had been received into

the members' stores on November 30. Of these 678,301 bales had been offered at auction and 673,448 actually sold. The quantity shipped unsold was 11,707 bales, leaving a balance in store of 811,823 bales.

The New Zealand wool selling season opened the middle of November, the first auction taking place at Wellington on the 17th proximo. Compared with the closing rates of last autumn prices showed extraordinary advances of from about 10 to nearly 50 per cent.

Super lines were usually 4c to 6c a pound higher. Subsequent sales, both at Wellington and other towns, have witnessed further rises, up to 45½c having been paid for halfbred fleece wools at Christchurch.

Thanks to the favorable seasonal conditions prevailing over the great bulk of the pastoral country of Australia, feed is in abundance on most runs. It carries plenty of substance, and graziers should now have no difficulty in holding their stock well into the new year if they so desire.

The fat stock markets of the capital cities have fluctuated during the month. The middle of November was marked by a period of quite extraordinary high values, and although rates have since dropped a little, current quotations are abnormal for the time of the year. Last week shorn crossbred and Merino wethers, such as are ordinarily used in the local butchering trade, were fetching from \$8.60 to \$9.35 per head; woolly lambs \$7.70 to anything up to \$9.60; and prime handy-weight bullocks \$66 to \$72.50 in the Sydney and Melbourne sale yards. As far as sheep and lambs are concerned the foregoing quotations are 20 to 25 per cent higher than obtained twelve months ago.

THE OGDEN LIVESTOCK SHOW

Larger exhibits with increased attendance and interest were the features of the Sixth Annual Livestock Show held at Ogden, January 6 to 10.

The exhibits of fat cattle were numerous and of good quality, consisting chiefly of animals fed in Utah, Idaho and Oregon. The grand cham-

pion load sold for \$11 per hundred-weight, other loads of good cattle bringing from \$8@10 per hundred-weight, principally on the orders of hotels and markets in Los Angeles and Salt Lake City.

The show of carloads of fat sheep, though small, was high in quality. Mr. Michael Barclay of Blackfoot, Idaho, was again first with a carload of fully finished, high grade Hampshire lambs. Although overweight for the best market demand, these lambs were of the most striking uniformity and high carcass quality. They were sold at \$21.50 per hundredweight to the American Packing and Provision company of Ogden.

The second prize carload was shown by Rich and Wilson of Burley, Idaho. This load was also of Hampshire blood, but with less finish than the winning lot. The purchaser was the Reed Hotel of Ogden, paying 20 cents per pound.

The third load was Shropshire breeding and had won for Mr. Floyd Fox of Silverton, Oregon, at the Portland show. These lambs had apparently not done very well or had no attention of a shepherd since bringing to the show at Portland and were outclassed.

The champion wether in the single class was a Hampshire lamb exhibited by the Thousand Springs Farm of Wendell, Idaho, which was champion of its breed at Chicago. This lamb was sold at \$1.05 per pound to the Owyhee Hotel of Boise, Idaho.

The breeding sheep show consisted of the Rambouillet flocks of King Bros., Laramie, Wyoming, and W. D. Candland, Mt. Pleasant, Utah. King Bros. also showed a flock of Corriedales with excellent fleece quality for breeding types. The Rambouillets were judged by E. F. Rinehart of the Idaho Agricultural Extension Service. King Bros. aged ram won his class and the championship as well as heading the winning exhibitor's flock. King Bros. were also first in the ram lamb class. Candland's yearling ram was the winner and the same flock was first in the classes for yearling ewes and for ewe lambs, and had the champion ewe.

The Wool Sack

MONTANA CONTRACTS

Ninety per cent of northern Montana's sheepmen have contracted their 1925 clip to eastern wool buyers for delivery after shearing season, it is stated by men closely in touch with wool growers. Contracting has been carried through November and was virtually brought to a conclusion during December. No more than 10 per cent of the growers in Great Falls territory have not contracted as yet, although the proportion of the remaining tonnage may be slightly larger than that figure.

Prices realized have ranged from 41 to 50 cents, with bids made in the last week running up to 52 cents. The average of prices named in the contracts will approximate 44 or 45 cents, the lower figures being those agreed on earlier in the fall. Among those who have contracted their wool in the immediate vicinity of Great Falls are J. B. Long & Co., and the Carmichael ranch. The Osnes wool at Square Butte, is one of the larger clips that has not been sold, it is understood.

Contracting of wool on so large a scale at this season is claimed to be without precedent in Montana. The greater portion of the contracts made here have been arranged by local men who have acted for eastern wool houses, although a few buyers have been in and out of Great Falls and other Montana wool centers.

In recent weeks some of the larger growers have advised against contracting of the 1925 clip, but this position was not taken as a general thing until virtually all of the deals were closed. Different growers interviewed said they preferred to not quote the prices they have agreed to accept—some without further explanation, and others with the frank admission that the sold too cheap and didn't like to have their contracts compared with some they knew about.

The high price for wool for the sea-

son has been set by the Columbus pool of Stillwater and Carbon Counties, the figure being 50 cents per pound and \$1 a head down without interest, upon the contract. The deal has just been closed, T. P. Mulvehill, wool buyer for Silberman & Company, of Chicago, being the purchaser of the pool offering of 60,000 fleeces, about half a million pounds of wool.

The deal was made upon a set basis of 50 cents declared by the committee.

Bids from other buyers were received running from 45 to 48 cents. The Silbermans accepted the minimum set by the pool and bid 50 cents, paying \$1 a head down without interest, upon the contract.

The pool represents a portion of the Carbon County clip, all or that of Stillwater and parts of Sweet Grass. It has been successful each year in getting the high price for Montana clips. Leon Shaw.

The Boston Wool Market

By Henry A. Kidder

Another closed chapter has been added to the book in which is recorded the history of the Boston wool trade. For good or ill, the tale for 1924 is complete. Looked at from the angle of the entire year, results have been much more satisfactory than in 1923. The last six months were especially fruitful for Summer Street, as prices were constantly advancing during that period and at the end were far above anything recorded in the first half-year. Higher prices were not the only notable feature of the year's work, as depleted stocks were fully as much in the eye of the trade as extreme prices. Both make for strength, and that is the outstanding feature of the situation at the beginning of the New Year.

The Boston market was quiet during most of December, owing to the limited selection of desirable wools offered for manufacturers' approval, as well as the sold-up condition of all domestic sorts. Yet, even in the final week there was a steady movement, with manufacturers showing continued interest. This has been one of the most encouraging features of the situation, that there should have been enough demand to so nearly clear the market of desirable wools, in spite of the fact that the goods trade has failed to respond in a normal and satisfactory manner.

On the threshold of the New Year,

Summer Street is looking forward to the new heavyweight season with high hopes, and with a great deal of confidence that in some way manufacturers and goods buyers and distributors will get together and provide an outlet for the whole of the domestic clip and a fair share of the clips of other producing and exporting countries. Much depends, it is believed, on the way the new lines are priced. Low prices are expected to stimulate buying on the part of goods distributors and cutters-up, though not suggestive of large profits for the wool trade. Wide distribution is supposed to be the desideratum for both manufacturers and wool dealers.

It is believed in the wool trade that the problem that manufacturers have to solve is how to so price their goods as to attract buyers, and at the same time leave them a margin of profit. Suggestions are heard here that the worsted lines may show advances over last year of 7½ to 10 per cent. It is also predicted that certain lines of overcoatings may be advanced up to 20 per cent in the new price lists. The reason for this difference is found in the fact that while worsteds have been dull and listless for a large part of the year, there has been considerable interest in certain lines of woollen goods, and fancy overcoatings in particular have been selling well.

This is shown by the way noils and

short wools of all descriptions, and especially Texas and California fall wools, have been selling. This particular movement is not yet over, showing that the woolen mills are still in need of a certain kind of wool stock. There has also been of late a fairly active demand for scoured wools, both pulled and shorn, foreign and domestic, where available. Mill buyers have continued to pick up anything that fits in with the needs of their concerns, and as a result December has shown, perhaps not so large a volume as satisfactory strength and a steady demand for anything at all desirable.

As this is written, the Boston Wool Trade Association is making its annual inventory of wool remaining unsold in the Boston market. Current trade predictions are that the total of both foreign and domestic wools unsold, as of December 31, 1924, were the smallest in the history of the trade, some authorities placing the probable total at 20,000,000 pounds or less. The result ought to be known by the middle of January.

Perhaps this would have something less than the usual significance, owing to the fact that while dealers' stocks have been steadily and materially depleted, manufacturers' holdings have been as steadily increasing. This shifting of control may mean much or little to the wool trade, depending in large measure on whether the goods market rallies sufficiently to absorb surplus mill stocks. Perhaps this is the most uncertain feature about the present situation, both manufacturers and dealers being afraid of another buyers' strike, such as is thought to have wrecked the market in 1920. Therefore, the developments of the year will be watched very carefully.

Recent developments in the Territory wool sections and in Texas indicate a slackening in the contracting movement. This is partly due to the fact that some of the large operators are in a fairly comfortable position regarding wool supplies, and partly to the strengthening of their position on the part of the growers. It would be of interest to know whether there is a

definite trend, as some think, on the part of several of the leading houses to devote more than usual attention to the domestic side of their business.

Not all the leading houses have been swept into the contracting movement; indeed, some claim to have done nothing at all, and others only a little. This only makes the operations of certain houses stand out with greater prominence. Estimates of the actual volume of Territory and Texas wool under contract at the end of the year vary widely, ranging all the way from 50,000,000 to 100,000,000 pounds. In volume and early dating, nothing like the contracting movement in the last quarter of 1924 has been known in the wool trade of Boston.

If there has been a lessened volume of contracting in the last weeks of the year, it has not changed the level of prices, according to those most interested from the buying end, for some of the latest contracts have been made at the top prices of the movement. In Texas, 57 to 58 cents have been paid for twelve-months' clips, and it is also reported that as high as 60 cents has been paid for at least one choice clip. A very large volume of wool has been contracted in that state. Apparently not much has been done lately in Montana, though 50 cents has been paid in that state, and 52½ cents has been refused for several choice clips.

It is estimated that fully 50 per cent of the early Arizona wool are under contract, prices being 50 to 55 cents. One Boston house has taken a large volume of these early wools, and is naturally very much impressed with their value. The Jenkins clip has recently been contracted in Nevada at 46 cents, but this is thought to be the extreme, as most of the average clips have been at 42 to 43½ cents, with choice clips somewhat higher.

The Manti wools, at fifty cents, remain at the top of the market in Utah, as far as actual sales are concerned. A Philadelphia manufacturer is reported to have taken over a considerable volume of wools in the Panguitch district and at Parowan in southwestern Utah,

but as they are taken over on the basis of a guaranteed return on the shrinkage, there is no way of estimating the actual selling price at this time.

There is much interest felt and expressed in the Boston market in regard to what may be done this year in the matter of taking over the Jericho wools. It is reported that some sealed bids have been submitted, but as this is written, it can not be stated from authority just what has happened. Last year the Jericho wools were sold about the middle of May, and two years ago early in April, in both cases to Hallowell, Jones & Donald of Boston.

One of the interesting points of the situation in Oregon has been the taking over of the bulk of the pool offerings at Lakeview, two Boston houses getting several hundred thousand pounds at 44 cents. Later operations resulted in the bulk of the remainder of the Lakeview wools being placed under contract at a slightly higher figure than that named above. As high as 45 cents has been paid for Eastern wools in that state, particularly in Malheur County in the Snake River country. This price is said to have been paid for some of the heaviest clips in the state. In the Columbia River Valley and in the country watered by its tributaries to the south, very little contracting has been done to date.

Little wool is left in Wyoming to either buy or contract, and the same is true of the Soda Springs district, where 50 cents has been paid. Central and eastern Idaho is also well sold, though no new high price levels are reported here. The bulk of the contracts have been made on the flat advance of a dollar a head without interest, though a few are said to have been made at a dollar and a half and an occasional one at two dollars. The feeling in the wool trade is that these terms are unusually favorable for the growers, as the advance per pound increases with each month during the life of the contract.

Territory wools are in such small stock here that prices are largely nom-

inal, though the emphasis is still being placed on the outside range. Compared with a month ago, however, there has been an advance in the clean cost of about 5 cents a pound on the finer grades, and much more than that on the medium wools. The range for the best fine and fine medium staple wools, for the little available, is \$1.60 to \$1.65 clean, and an occasional small choice lot is quoted up to \$1.70, and sales have been made at that figure. Half-blood staple is quotable at \$1.45 to \$1.50, good French combing at \$1.50 to \$1.55, and fine and fine medium clothing at \$1.45 to \$1.55 for the best lots, and \$1.40 to \$1.45 for average lots.

The market remains bare of really choice lots of both three-eighths-blood and quarter-blood wools. Three-eighths-blood staple Territory wool is especially strong, with the best lots quoted at \$1.35 to \$1.40, with sales. Quarter-blood staple is also very firm, and is not available for mill buying at less than \$1.25 to \$1.30. Low quarter-blood sells, when to be obtained, at \$1.05 to \$1.10, and possibly a little more.

Delaine fleeces touched a new high level for the season recently, selling for both 72 and 72½ cents, the latter being the highest figure reported to the writer to date. These prices were for really choice wool, if not selected fleeces. Considerable of this grade, that is, small in view of the small stocks remaining unsold, have changed hands during the month at 70 cents, and a little was sold early in the month at 68 cents. Fine unwashed clothing has sold up 58 to 60 cents, and good XX wool would readily bring 62 cents.

There has been considerable activity during the month in medium fleeces. Early in December, buyers for Philadelphia knitting yarn spinners were in the market and made something approaching a clean-up, both three-eighths and quarter-blood combing being jumped to 66 to 68 cents, with sales well up to top figures. Half-blood combing is nominally quoted on the same level as the medium grades, all at 70 cents, with the holders of the last

small lots available very firm in their ideas.

The foreign situation eased off a little just before the Christmas holidays, but up to that time the relative difference between foreign and domestic wools had been preserved. American buyers were more active as a consequence. Opinion is divided as to whether Colonial and River Plate markets have been found to be topheavy, and therefore that lower prices are to be expected after the turn of the year, or whether the softness noted was simply a little reaction from high levels, something that might be remedied as soon as primary markets were in running order again.

Strongly fortified behind the tariff wall, American wool growers are in a very strong position. High prices abroad help, for it is evidently unnecessary to fear competition, as long as foreign sorts are selling in bond for more than free domestic wools on which no such handicap of duty is placed. The position looks very strong, therefore, for anything desirable in wools of domestic origin, and the wool trade is expecting to take high levels to be sustained. The fact that manufacturers continue to take over contracts and imported lots of wool at a profit to the seller, seems to indicate that they also are believers in continued high prices.

COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION OPPOSED TO WOOL CONTRACTING

Opposition to contracting for sale of unshorn wool and views on the wool situation are expressed in Special Bulletin No. 23, recently issued by the Pacific Co-operative Wool Growers. The bulletin follows:

The officers and Board of Directors of the Pacific Co-operative Wool Growers desire to impress upon the members the significance of the Boston Wool Trade's action in contracting over a hundred million pounds of our 1925 wool from four to six months prior to shearing. Contract prices paid are 15 to 20 percent under present spot prices for similar wools in Boston. Boston spot prices are under current London prices, plus the

tariff. Therefore, current contracts already made in the West have been at figures far below today's world wool prices. Your Association has just sold a carload of Oregon grease wool to net growers 58 cents, similar to wools which are being contracted at 45 cents.

Boston stocks are lower than in years. Anything like a normal manufacturing demand should make wools considerably higher than present contracts next June. Your officers agree for once with the best brains of the Boston Wool Trade, that wool has every indication of being higher at shearing time. The dealers have invested fifty million dollars in 1925 wool four months before it is shorn and you can realize that the reason they are doing this is with the expectation of making a handsome profit. They have much more information on the world situation than the average grower and if they are willing to take over these wools now, doesn't it appear to you that the wool grower should have confidence and faith enough in his business to keep his wool at least until he produces it? If Wool growers, when the opportunity comes (like it is this year) for a nice profit in growing wool, persist in letting the other fellow take the chance for the profit and only keep and carry these wools during those seasons when the speculators do not want them and when chances for profits are small, it will result in American sheepmen getting much less out of their industry than they are entitled to. You may say, "Wool may go down; it has before and it may again." Quite true, but these men have the information and backing it with their dollars that it won't. The times that it has gone down are, according to our search of the wool market records for twenty years, or less than two years in nine. The grower who has adopted an orderly marketing policy and followed it religiously is today ahead of the game. The past year early sellers lost over ten cents a pound in thousands of instances that the orderly marketing wool grower gained. A few years like that puts the orderly marketer far ahead of the man who sells before shearing, no matter what happens to the market.

If you, as a member are tempted to sell, DON'T DO IT. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 1925, OUT OF FAIRNESS TO EVERY LOYAL MEMBER, ARE GOING TO REQUIRE FULL AND COMPLETE DELIVERY FROM EVERYONE. This is only simple justice and a square deal for those who are making orderly marketing a success. Every member who fails to deliver increases the expense for the member who does, as our organization is strictly co-operative and is run at cost. I am glad to say that wool growers who violated their contracts have been extremely rare. In all cases settled liquidated damages have been paid and the Board has tried to adjust every case out of court. However, the only four cases taken into court were won by the Association and the contract sustained by the court in every particular.

Pre-Shearing Advances Now Available
Shortage of funds and need for expense money may tempt you to sell. Accordingly, we have arranged to advance \$1.00 per fleece any time before shearing. Interest will probably be at 6½%. Wools will need to be free of mortgage and where mortgaged, we will require a release of the wool by the mortgagee. If this money will help you now, write in about it at once. We are working in every way possible to render every proper service in connection with sound, business-like, orderly wool marketing.

December Receipts and Prices at Four Markets

CHICAGO

Although live mutton trade ran into squally weather on the last round of 1925, no such market as developed during December, especially around Christmas time, has ever been witnessed, lambs gaining \$2@2.25 per hundredweight, yearlings \$3@3.25 per hundredweight, and sheep \$1@1.50 per hundredweight in a single week. At the crest of the boom, using that term advisedly, woolled lambs reached \$19.25, shorn lambs \$15, yearlings \$17.50, wethers \$11.50 and ewes \$10. Feeding lambs scored at \$17 before the bubble burst. By way of comparison, during the corresponding week of November \$14.50 stopped the best lambs, \$11.85 was the limit on shorn lambs, no yearlings passed \$12, and \$10 was the limit on wethers, only a few light ewes reaching \$8.50. Feeding lambs, measured by extreme prices, advanced \$2.50 per hundredweight. The previous month fat and feeding lambs were on a parity, but in the holiday-week scramble for fat stock the spread between the two classes was \$2.50 per hundredweight.

Taking the entire month the shortage was not serious; ten points reporting about 40,000 less than in December, 1923, so that the advance was attributable to a broad eastern outlet. Markets east of Chicago, especially eastern seaboard points, were bare, forcing killers down that way to send urgent orders to Chicago and as these orders specified fat lambs, a scramble for the pick of the crop resulted, forcing packers to take much stock that was merely in good feeder flesh. In the scramble weight was ignored, and lambs weighing in excess of 95 pounds brought top prices. Condition, not weight, was the factor. Yearlings made the most sensational advance, as the product could be substituted for lamb. Had rail facilities not been hampered by the cold snap of the third week of December it is improbable that the \$19 performance would have

been recorded, as near-by feedlots were depleted and railroads refused to handle distant consignments. The moment supply became anywhere near normal, a slump ensued. Contrasted with the mad market of December, 1923, when \$12.75@13 bought the major portion of the lamb crop, recent trade was highly pyrotechnical.

In December, 1922, it was a \$14.50@15 lamb trade; in 1921, \$11.25@11.75 took the bulk, and 1920 it was an \$11@11.50 trade. The December rise this year registered the highest level of prices since 1919.

The First Week

During the week ending December 6, ten markets received 257,000, compared with 258,000 a year ago. The market circle run was 110,000 in excess of the previous week, but under broad local and eastern demand lambs advanced about 50 cents per hundredweight, with \$15@15.25 ruling prices, the top reaching \$15.50, against \$14.50 at the low point late in November. This established the highest level since June. Shorn lambs went on a \$12@12.25 basis, most of the yearlings cashing at \$11@12. Sheep followed, lambs getting a 25@50 cent boost, on which the best wethers reached \$10, and handyweight, fat ewes \$9, bulk of the fat native ewes selling at \$8@8.50; big weights down to \$5.50. Feeding lambs gained 25@50 cents, bulk selling at \$14.25@15, with a \$15.10 top, feeder yearlings going at \$11@11.50. Small lots of full-mouthed ewes made \$8.50, natives going as low as \$6.75.

The Second Week

Sharp advances were scored during the week of December 13, when 250,000 reached the ten markets, against 301,000 a year ago. Lambs gained 50@75 cents. Eastern shippers, who were apprehensive of a shortage of fat lambs for the holiday period, took the market out of the local packers' hands. The top went to \$16.25, bulk of the better grades selling at \$15.50@16, with a sprinkling of warmed-up stuff at \$14.75@15, and culls at \$12.50

@13. Shorn lambs reached \$13.75, with the bulk at \$12.50@13.50, prices depending on the growth of wool. Yearling trade was done mainly at \$12.50@13.25. Sheep were in somewhat excess supply, breaking that market 25 cents, most of the fat ewes selling at \$8.50@9.50, with a few wethers at \$10. Feeding lambs were scarce, country buyers accepting a 50-cent advance on which they paid \$15.60, the highest figure since 1920, bulk of the feeder crop selling at \$14.50@15.50; yearlings at \$11.50@12.50. Full-mouthed ewes went to breeders at \$7.50@8.75.

The Third Week

The upward swing continued during the week of December 20, when the \$17 quotation was established on a run of 227,000 at ten markets, compared with 213,000 in 1923. A break developed at mid-week, when eastern demand relaxed, but a fresh budget of orders came from that quarter, whereupon the advance was resumed, establishing the highest level of prices since 1919. Taking the week as a whole, a spread of \$15.75@16.50 took most of the desirable lambs, shorn stock selling anywhere from \$13@14; yearlings at \$12.75@13.25. Fat sheep took another 25-cent decline, wethers selling at \$9@10, and ewes at \$6.50@8.50. Feeders advanced 25@50 cents, desirable light lambs selling at \$15@15.50, with a \$15.75 top. Breeding ewes were in demand at \$7.50@8.75.

The Fourth Week

The last full week of December recorded the crest of the rise, \$19.25 being paid for fat lambs. Ten markets received 155,000, against 184,000 in 1923. It proved to be the most phenomenal week in trade history, especially at the holiday period. Lambs gained \$2@2.25 per hundredweight, closing on an \$18.50@19 basis, the bulk of the week's supply earning \$17.25@18.75. Shorn lambs trailed the advance, a few reaching \$15 and the bulk selling at \$14@14.50. Yearlings were marked up in even more sensational manner than lambs, for which they

were made to do substitute duty, gaining \$3@3.50 per hundredweight. A load of 86-pound yearlings reached \$17.50, against a \$13.75 top early in the week. Fat sheep tagged on, advancing \$1@1.50, light ewes reaching \$10, bulk of the native supply vending at a range of \$7@9.75. The few wethers available sold at \$10.75@11.50. Feeding lambs gained only 50@75 cents, the best selling at \$16.50, with the bulk at \$15.75. Breeding ewes sold at \$7.50@9, young native stock making \$9.75.

The Last Week

A slump developed during the half-week at the month end, when supply increased substantially, owing to subsidence of cold weather and big runs in response to the high market of the previous week. They took off 25@50 cents as a starter, then an additional 50@75 cents, and in spots a plumb dollar. On the break \$18 was considered a scratch price for fat lambs, \$17.50@17.75 taking the bulk; feeding lambs had a dollar break to \$15.50@16, after scoring at a \$17 pinnacle, and \$10 fat sheep the previous week sold down to \$9.25@9.50.

On the last day of the year another dollar was taken off the lamb market, \$16.50@17 taking the bulk of the fat lambs, with a \$17.25 top, contrasted with a \$19.25 top and an \$18.50@19 bulk at the high spot the previous week. This carried a large percentage of merely warmed-up stock attracted to market prematurely in an effort to land on the bulge. J. E. Poole.

OMAHA

Further sheep upturns in prices were registered in fat lambs during the month of December, in fact values moved upwards more rapidly than for some time, striking the highest peak in over three years before the advance was checked. Total supplies failed to prove of burdensome proportions at any particular time and under a broad outlet to all quarters and steadily advancing markets elsewhere prices worked from the \$14.50 level, which was apparent the initial day of the

mouth, to \$18.25, the latter being paid in the final week. The last three days of the month found supplies on the increase and demand slowed up a trifle, only to bring about a rather sharp reaction from the extreme top, although the end of the four week period saw values fully \$2.50@3 higher than the close of November.

While feeder prices did not advance quite as fast as fat stuff, substantial gains were noted all along the line. An urgent inquiry was evident at practically all times and lambs on the handy-weight order moved readily, there being occasions when feeder buyers even took hold of strings of lambs carrying a fleshy end. Taken as a whole offerings of what might be termed as feeder lambs on the light and handyweight order were of rather limited number and bulk of the supplies averaged 65 to 70 pounds and up, very little stuff under these weights being received. As usual at this time of the year, arrivals were made up of lambs that had been on roughage or corn for a short period and were again taken out for further feeding and finishing. Feeders reached a top for the month of \$16.25, or the highest since the latter part of 1919. A spread of \$15@15.75 caught most of the sales of these classes the final days of the month.

The outgo of feeders to the country during December fell around 2,000 head short of the same month in 1923, and showed a substantial decrease from November's figures, totaling up just 17,627 head, against 30,697 head in November. Nearly twice as many lambs went to feed lots in Nebraska as to the other states combined, some 10,569 head moving to this state, while 2,936 head went to Iowa, 3,002 head to Missouri, 959 head to Michigan, and 161 head to Illinois.

A good tone also dominated the aged sheep trade throughout the month. Local packers furnished a broad outlet for the small supplies of sheep that were received and this, together with sharp advances in lambs, forced values to levels that on the close were fully \$1@1.50 higher than the final quotations in November. No feeding or

breeding sheep were included in the receipts, which is nothing unusual for this time of the year. Light and handy-weight fat ewes on the desirable order cleared at \$9.25@9.75 at the close, with medium and heavier kinds down from the \$9 mark. Wethers are quoted at \$9@10.75, with light yearlings upwards to \$15, but practically nothing of this class coming. Clyde McCreary.

KANSAS CITY

The December sheep trade was full of sensations. The market established new high record prices for December, and gave the general appearance of a further advance, but a moderate increase in receipts knocked the pegs from beneath demand and prices crumbled in the last two days of the month. However, in reaching the high point there had been such a substantial advance that at the extreme decline in the closing days there was a net gain for the month on lambs of \$2.50, and for fat sheep \$1.25 to \$1.50. The high point of the month came December 29, when best lambs brought \$18@18.25; clipped lambs \$14 to \$14.25; wethers \$10 to \$10.25, and ewes \$9.50 to \$9.85. These prices were \$4 higher on lambs and \$1.50 higher on sheep than the closing quotations in November.

The extreme high point was reached by gradual advance extending over a twenty-nine-day period. This was brought about by continued light receipts at the principal markets, and an embargo in New York against Western poultry. This last condition caused a material expansion in the demand for both dressed lamb and mutton. The high prices for wool and pelts have been a source of strength to the sheep market for some time past, and it took but a slight improvement in demand for the meat to put the final lifting power into prices. However, the big advance proved to be the cause of the rapid decline in the last two days of the month.

After the middle of December killer buyers began to look for increasing receipts, and when liberal supplies were finally offered on December 30 and 31,

the buying side was ready to reduce their average cost for the month by a sharp reduction in prices from the high point.

December marketings did not make as large a reduction in supplies on feed as should have been done. When the market is advancing the feeder hesitates about letting go, but when there is a break it is hard to get him to restore stability by holding back. The outstanding problem before the feeder for the next sixty days will be an even distribution of supplies, both as to time and as to market destination. December 1 there were about only 1 per cent fewer lambs on feed than on the corresponding date last year. December marketings were less than in the same month in 1923. On top of this condi-

tion so many feeders put in light weight lambs, figuring on the spring market, that the March and early April market may have relatively more than is needed. The January movement will be larger than the December run, and February will uncover liberal supplies. In some of the Colorado feeding sections there have been replacements following early marketing. The extent of this second feeding will be more than usual, and will have a material effect in maintaining receipts later. On the other hand, lambs that were fed at transit yards near Kansas City have been cleaned up closely. A good many of them were fall shorn Texas classes and they made a good profit. This close cleanup will give the straight movement from feed lots the right-of-

way from now on, and will afford the shipper a chance to choose his own marketing day if he wants to make distribution from nearby feed lots.

Few feeding lambs were offered on the open market, but they kept in line with fat lambs, best selling up to \$17. On the close \$16 was paid. From now on about the only lambs feeders get, will be culls, cut outs, and knot heads, but even at that this demand will tend to prevent killers from getting the half fat and plain kinds at bargain prices.

December sheep receipts in Kansas City were 106,425, compared with 108,932 in December, 1923, and 95,280 in the same month in 1922. December receipts in years prior to 1922 averaged 125,000. Total receipts for 1924 were 1,569,070, compared with 1,671,145 in 1923, and 1,574,217 in 1922. C. M. P.

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The Talkways

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H. H. Madden.

NEW RECORD RECEIPTS AT CHICAGO STOCK YARDS

During 1924 the Chicago Union Stock Yard added to its supremacy as the leading live stock market of the world by establishing several new records for number of receipts. The total number of animals of all species received during the twelve months surpassed last year's high mark of 18,501,883, and set a new record of 18,653,539, worth nearly twenty-five million dollars more than those marketed in 1923.

More calves were received than ever before, 794,350 arriving at Chicago during the year, against the previous record of 771,489, made in 1922. The largest number of carloads of all species ever unloaded in a single month came to the Chicago market during December, a total of 34,440, as compared with 33,430, the former high mark set in January, 1919.

The run of hogs in December smashed all existing records. The week ending December 6th, witnessed a total of 384,295 received, surpassing the old mark of 334,279 established during the week ending January 8th, 1916. On December 15th the stupendous run of 122,749 hogs arrived, shattering by more than 25,000 the record of 96,964 that had stood since November 29th, 1918. By the end of December the total hog receipts had mounted to a new monthly mark of 1,436,029, against the previous high figure of 1,273,587, made in January, also of this year, which in turn excelled the total of 1,227,508 established in January, 1916.

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Represented in the pool are the Indian Creek Cattle Company, Don Taylor, Max B. Taylor, Tom Taylor, Boyd Hammond, James Somerville, A. M. Robertson and the Allred Sheep Company. The price paid for the lambs is 10½ cents per pound, delivery to be made in the month of October at Thompsons and Cisco.

The price paid last year to the Moab sheepmen was 9½ cents per pound, a cent lower than is paid this year. Last year's lambs at the time of fall delivery at the railway weighed from 72 to 76 pounds.

COUNTIES SUPPORT COYOTE CONTROL

Two years ago but very few counties in California were cooperating with the state and Federal Government in the control of predatory animals. Within the last year, however, many counties have become interested and are putting up funds from \$500 to \$7,000 each for predatory animal control work—under the supervision of Mr. Charles G. Poole, Predatory Animal Inspector of the United States Biological Survey. He is also in charge of the state forces.

Recently Imperial County, Contra Costa County and Kings County have been added to the list of those counties cooperating. Some thirty counties in California are now working under the joint arrangement between the state and Federal Governments.

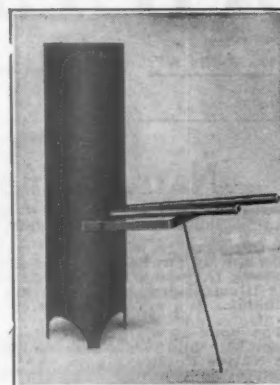
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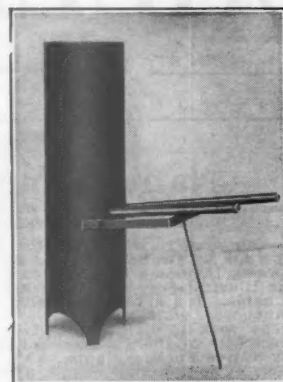
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Red Bluff, California

Greetings

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May 1925 be the **Banner Year** for our Stockmen friends, is the wish of

SALT LAKE UNION STOCK YARDS

North Salt Lake, Utah.

Home of **National Ram Sale** and **Inter-Mountain Stock Show**.

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Native American Forage Plants

Another Good Book by Dr. Arthur W. Sampson, Associate Professor of Range Management and Forest Ecology of the University of California.

Our readers will recall the series of articles on forage plants written some time ago by Dr. Sampson for the Wool Grower. Native American Forage Plants is along the same line, but, of course, very much more extensive and elaborate. The illustrations—and there are about 200 of them—are unusually artistic and valuable. It's a very easy step from the picture to recognition of the growing plant.

The book is divided into two parts: Plant Life of the Pasture and Important Native Forage Plants.

Part One contains chapters on Pasture Forage and Animal Nutrition, How Plants Live, Grow and Reproduce, Environment of Range and Pasture Plants and Forces That Influence Them, and Classification, Collection, and Preservation of Plant Specimens.

Part Two is made up of chapters describing the various native grasses and broadleaved forage plants, such as the wheatgrasses, bluegrasses, fescues, redtops, and plants of the pea, carrot, sunflower and valerian families. It also includes a discussion of the comparative forage-value of the different pasture grasses and of the broadleaved forage plants.

A book that should be found in every sheepman's library. And just the thing for a Christmas Gift.

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RAMBOUILLETS IN CENTRAL OREGON

As it has been some time since I last wrote my little say-so on my Rambouillets, I want to let you and other wool growers know that I am still on the job. I learned so much from my visit to Salt Lake and on to Mt. Pleasant, the real home of Rambouillets and real Rambouillets, and have had very good luck, considering everything. From the 100 ewes and one yearling ram, I have on hand 60 head of rams, 48 head of ewe lambs, which are a very fine, heavy-wooled, heavy-boned, large lambs. My rams average 140 pounds at present. They were dropped from March 20 to May 1, all from my yearling ram, which goes to prove the ruggedness of the Rambouillet sheep. Also, that it pays to pay a little more for a high bred ram and ewes that have the size. Size is a big factor, as it gives you all the advantages of a larger crop of wool and lambs, and also insures a perfect crop of lambs. Another factor in their favor is: I have had them over a year and have lost only one ewe so far. So when everything is considered, the Rambouillet is an ideal sheep for this country, beyond doubt.

I am convinced that when my rams are put in the range flocks around here the gospel of real Rambouillets will soon spread and more registered and pure breds will soon take the place of the ordinary stuff on the ranches, as this country holds great possibilities for the small flock master. So here is for Rambouillets—larger, finer and better, and when I say sheep I am sure to say Rambouillets.

Well, we have had one of the driest seasons in history, which has broken with one of the wettest falls I have seen here—too late to make grass for stock, but insuring early grass for spring. We have had very little snow to date, and it is very much needed for next year's crop, as most everything was a failure here. Hay and grass are high, which has worked hardships on all the stockmen out here.

Burns, Oregon. Chas. P. Kuhl.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE DENVER LIVE STOCK MARKET

A comparison of the receipts at the Denver market for the year 1923 with 1913 shows an increase of 200 per cent in sheep, 25 per cent in cattle and 100 per cent in hogs. 1924 arrivals show a healthy advance over 1923. The figures are as follows:

Year	Sheep	Cattle	Hogs	Horses
1923	1,856,578	619,882	495,292	21,008
1913	620,431	499,208	246,598	16,274
Increase ...	1,236,147	120,674	248,694	4,734
Estimated receipts 1924 are	2,050,000	630,000	550,000	35,00

It will be noted the receipts for 1924 show a healthy increase over 1923 in all departments, and indications are that Denver will be the only central market showing such increases in all species. The cattle increases shown for the ten-year period do not reflect the actual condition, due to the large movement of southern cattle to the northwest ranges through Denver ten years ago and the comparative absence of this at the present time.

The Denver yards are completely paved, sanitary sewers drain every nook and corner, and pure mountain water from Cheesman Dam, forty-five miles away, is piped directly to each pen. Shippers comment on the fact that this, together with the high class hay they are accustomed to receiving at Denver, gives their stock fills and appearance never before thought possible. The general short hauls to Denver in comparison with other markets tend to help the sale and net return, as the stock is fresh instead of fagged and would rather eat than lie down and rest.

Another item often noted by shippers familiar with other markets is the layout of the unloading docks, scales and other equipment, which eliminates long drives of stock to scales after filled and sold. The yards, when rebuilt a few years ago, were planned for a minimum of handling, all of which react to the benefit of the producer.

Denver is the home of the largest concrete sheep barn in the world. The barn covers four acres and is double-

Two Sheep Breeding Ranches (Comprising 277 acres—to be sold together)

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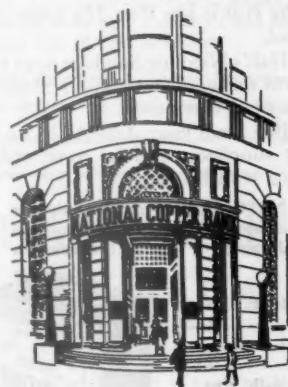
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Most dips kill only one of these pests. Hall's Nicotine Sulphate kills both scabmites and ticks. One dipping does the work of two; time and money saved.

It contains 40% pure Nicotine. This high concentration makes it easy to handle and very economical. One ten-pound tin dips 1,000 sheep. The cost is less than 1½ cents per head.

Hall's Nicotine Sulphate does not harm the wool, but it kills scabmites and ticks every time.

Buy from your dealer. If he is not supplied, send us your order along with his name.

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decked, thereby furnishing eight acres of covered feeding and sale pens.

LAMB PRICE PROSPECTS

Lamb trade will be on a hand-to-mouth basis the rest of the winter. West of the Missouri River Colorado and Nebraska are now in possession of the major part of the visible supply. Idaho, which fed 200,000 or more last winter, has a mere handful, such erstwhile heavy operators as "Bob" Stanfield, "Jim" Clinton, R. E. Bicknell and others, being out of the game or playing for small stakes. Idaho's defection insures the strategic position of Colorado and Nebraska operators. Northern Illinois was out of lambs before the winter fairly set in, and up to November only a corporal's guard went into the territory east of Chicago, where feeders refused to consider a \$12 market for thin lambs earlier in the season as legitimate, to their subsequent regret. They were fearful of the December and January market after the punishment they took at that period last season. The man who was afraid of \$12 lambs has recently been paying anywhere from \$15 to \$16.50, one consignment of 62-pound stock leaving Chicago late in December that cost \$17.

With the winter and spring supply in strong hands a stable market at high prices should be assured. So far there has been scant inducement to feed out, as lambs lacking finish have sold on a relatively higher basis than fat ones. The late feeder market was a boon to thousands of farmer feeders, as it afforded competition on a class that killers would have appraised at serious penalty otherwise. Between eastern butchers and feeders the big packers were forced to go a lively pace. The entire cost has not, however, been borne by meat, as pelts are realizing good prices in striking contrast with conditions a year ago, when buyers got scant credit for by-product.

Few lambs will go to feed lots the rest of the winter, as prices afford incentive to present owners to put them in decent killing condition; nor will the

overweight lamb be sufficiently numerous to cause concern, as the trade can always use a percentage of 90 to 100-pound stuff. There will be alternate dips and bulges developing wide fluctuations, but by Easter a high market should be recorded, and if California has any considerable number of spring lambs to ship east they will get a warm reception.

Packers are showing marked preference for fleeced stock, which accounts for a \$4 spread between these and shorn goods. Even a short growth of wool affects the price substantially. Feeders are not shearing to handle wool, as packers can do that job more economically, but to get rid of ticks or secure rapid gains, consequently shearing will not be generally resorted to.

A budding and somewhat premature speculative trade in 1925 ewe lambs has subsided. While it was in progress a few trades were consummated at prices ranging from \$10 to \$11 per head for June delivery. Straight bands of mixed lambs were taken at \$10.50. There is a possibility of revival late in the winter or some time prior to lambing, should wool and lamb prices be maintained or advanced, but bankers are disposed to discourage ventures of this character.

A Chicago financier, when asked to provide earnest money for contracts at \$10.50 to \$11 per head, wired: "Nothing doing."

That the summer of 1925 will develop an insatiable demand for females from lambs to full-mouthed stock is inevitable. It will be a matter of getting them, rather than price, which will be as high as those furnishing the money are disposed to go.

"No wonder that there is a demand for ewes when fat lambs are netting \$15 per head and up, while thousands of good range cows have been sacrificed on the Fort Worth and Kansas City markets recently at prices netting \$10 or less to shippers," remarked a banker who is carrying reams of both cattle and sheep paper, "but I have a vivid recollection of what happened in 1920, and intend to keep close to shore."

J. E. Poole.

NATIVE LAMBS SHOW IMPROVEMENT

"Jess" Davis, as C. J. Davis, for many years head sheep buyer for Armour, is popularly known, is decidedly optimistic concerning the winer course of the live mutton market and the future of the sheep industry for the "long pull." Davis is now on the selling side of the market, but in his former capacity as a buyer his forecasts were more often right than otherwise, consequently his opinions are entitled to respect.

"There has been some improvement in quality of native lambs during the past season, Minnesota and Iowa in particular having responded to the campaign for proper trimming. The result has been fewer culls and a narrower spread between natives and westerns. The long tail end of the native crop has been missing, and instead of the old-time gap of \$5 per hundredweight between tops and seconds the gap has been \$2 to \$3. There has been no excessive supply of native lambs, which is distinctly advantageous, both to westerns growers and killers. There is a growing demand for lamb of the better quality, low grade product has always been detrimental to the industry by prejudicing consumers.

"Easier financial conditions in the West have enabled sheepmen to hold back more ewe lambs, a policy essential to maintenance of production. There is a growing disposition on the part of farmers east of the Missouri River to utilize over-age western ewes, short-mouthed stock, for one or two years. This season they have taken all they could get, advancing prices from \$6.50@7 early in the season, to \$8.50. Many of these old ewes are (gummers) seven to eight years old, and an uncertain proposition for wintering on the range, whereas they can get by with farm care. I know of old ewes, out ninety days on feed this season, that made twenty-eight pounds gain. Initial cost was \$5 and selling price \$8.25. Obviously this is the most economical method of salvag-

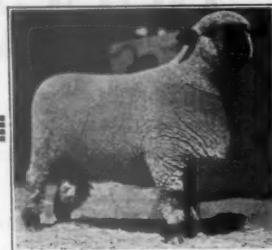
ing aged range stock, especially if it is held to raise a lamb and shear a fleece. It is the most satisfactory type of sheep business the average farmer can possibly get into, as the mutton, when finished, is salable at a good price; otherwise it is inferior. How useful ewes that have reached a doubtful stage of range wintering can be made on the farm is indicated by an operation at Sac City, Iowa, that came under my observation. The females cost \$8 per head last fall; raised 100 per cent of 78-pound lambs that realized \$13.75 and sheared wool worth \$3.50 per head.

"We appear to have run out of the surplus of heavy mutton, which is highly satisfactory, as the trade requires little of that kind of product. This season the markets have had to absorb fewer sheep than in many years and even then the spread between lambs and mature mutton has been absurdly wide, apparently. Lately there has been a substantial appreciation in sheep which denotes scarcity.

"As near as I can get supply figures, northern Colorado will finish about the same number of lambs as last year, or around 1,400,000; the Arkansas Valley will have some 200,000; the San Luis Valley 35,000 to 50,000, and Scotts Bluff 175,000 to 200,000, an increase of 25 per cent compared with last winter. Hay is costing \$2 to \$3 per ton more than last season, and corn is 40 to 50 per cent higher, so that gains will cost about one-third more. Taking the whole area mentioned 10 to 15 per cent more lambs are on feed than at this time last year, but the East is so much shorter that there is a deficiency in the aggregate.

"It is a significant fact that 75 per cent of the lamb that goes into commercial channels is consumed east of the longitude of Pittsburg. We can substantially increase consumption in the Mississippi Valley, where millions of people rarely eat it. Most of our lamb production is eaten close to the Atlantic and Pacific coasts; possibly the salt-impregnated atmosphere of those sections is responsible."

J. E. P.



America's top ram for year 1924. Sold to Laidlaw & Brockie, Muldoon, Idaho. The product of RIDGECREST FARM, Soda Springs, Idaho. H. L. Finch, Owner



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The best mutton sheep. Evidence; the highest-priced car mutton lambs ever sold in the world was a car of Hampshires. The price was 42 cents a pound live weight, having beaten all previous records by \$7 per hundred. When you want sheep you want Hampshires. When you want Hampshires let the American Hampshire Sheep Association send you a dandy little booklet and list of live breeders.

Write Comfort A. Tyler, Secretary,
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The Princess Wins!

For the first time in many years an American bred Hampshire was made Champion Ewe at the Chicago International. This yearling is our own breeding, a daughter of Commodore and Queen, both of them prize winners. Our first prize ewe lamb is of the same type, and she is a daughter of Commander, twice Champion Ram at the Chicago International.

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Breeders of Rambouillet Sheep

FLOCK FOUNDED IN 1873

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Having lost "Monarch" and "Ted" this year, stuff sired by them are limited. Our offerings are:

250 two-year-old range rams.

500 yearling range rams.

100 head of yearling stud rams.

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"Son of Ted"

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Yearling Ram, \$280.00. Five-year-old Ewe, \$105.00. Our entire offering brought an average of \$94.50. We took one-half of the first prizes, three-fourths of the second prizes.

FOR SALE NOW

A very choice bunch of yearling rams, weighing 165 pounds, strictly range handled.

100 head very choice young ewes, hand-bred to lamb in March.

150 head ram lambs.

Our sheep have a wonderful conformation, large bones, and good quality long staple wool.

WILFORD DAY, Manager

The CANDLAND RAMBOUILLETS

The blood and type of San Peter predominate in our flock.



Our foundation was laid by the use of sires selected from the best flocks of the United States and Europe.

SAN PETER

We are retaining only the best half of the ewes of our ram breeding flock. Our future offerings will be smaller but of still higher quality than in the past. Our pens of 25 Rambouillet Range Rams Topped the Salt Lake Sale in four out of the last five years.

W. D. CANDLAND & SONS, Mt. Pleasant, Utah

FARMERS TURN TO SHEEP

A get-back-into-sheep furore is on nearly everywhere east of the Missouri River. Dairying is threatened with disaster, swine raising is in disrepute owing to discrepancy between corn and hog values, and feeders are aroused to earnest but somewhat logical profanity whenever beef-making is suggested as an avenue to wealth.

Every commission house in the country displays a spindle groaning with unfilled ewe orders and bankers who refused to consider sheep paper as desirable collateral a year ago are anxious to discount it. Something over a year ago I dropped into a bank in a southern Michigan town, once the center of an extensive sheep industry, to find the banker and a farmer engaged in a dispute as to the advisability of putting in a band of western fed ewes, for which purpose the farmer desired to borrow \$2,500. The banker was reluctant and skeptical. I learned that the farmer understood sheep, had plenty of feed and proposed to dispose of a herd of cows he was milking, owing to the labor and overhead expense involved. "He's wise," said I to the banker. "Sheep are coming; dairying is being overdone." Whereupon the financier produced a Chicago paper containing a statement by United States Senator Shipstead that sheep were not paying marketing expense.

"Shipstead is either ignorant or is desirous of qualifying for membership in the Ananias society," I replied, but the banker was obdurate and the farmer had to get the money required for the venture from a Chicago commission house. That same banker is now anxious to put sheep into his neighborhood at the new scale of prices, realizing his error. It was ever thus: when the present condition of any phase of the livestock industry is unsatisfactory many country bankers conclude that it will always be so. They lack foresight, so far as agriculture is concerned, but may be depended on to back local industrial schemes of doubtful merit on the theory that it helps the town. Usually the small town

banker is imbued with desire to increase the population of his "burg" rather than boost agricultural production along essential economic lines.

An Ohio man was in Chicago recently in quest of breeding ewes. When I revealed the situation and prospect to him he was amazed. "Why, we have always been able to get western ewes heretofore," he said. "I supposed the country was full of them."

"Well, you're out of luck," said I, "but what are you so keen about sheep for?"

"We've got to have something that will create bank deposits," he replied, revealing stereotyped self-interest. "Cattle feeding has never put any money into my bank; in fact, I am tired of financing that operation; the average farmer is cussing hogs, saying they do not pay for the corn they eat, but when a man grows a band of lambs or shears a clip of wool I notice that the net proceeds go into the bank and stay there. We must handle either cattle or sheep to use our roughage and people are either weary of milking or fearful that dairying is scheduled for trouble. Under the circumstances I am for sheep."

And that tells the story. Lambs and wool look like profitable crops and bankers who would not consider sheep investment before the turn of the tide are keen for the switch. Ewe lambs are being conserved as never before, aged ewes are realizing unprecedented prices at farm sales and if the necessary western breeding stock was available the entire cornbelt and the eastern country would reinstate sheep husbandry on a gigantic scale with all possible celerity. New York, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia are clamorous for sheep and will be right along. The year 1925 will merely accentuate demand for western breeding stock, and in the scramble to get something capable of raising a lamb prices will be ignored.

If money and human energy are equal to the task, territory east of the Missouri River will make another effort to reinstate depleted farm flocks.

J. E. Poole.



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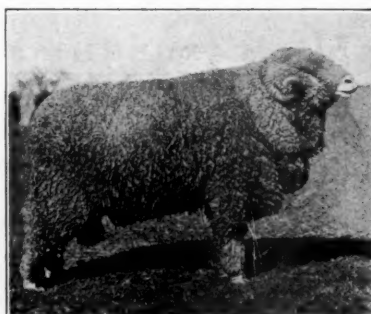
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425 Yearling Rams, all eligible to registration, and over half polled.
300 Registered Yearling Ewes.
6 Registered Percheron Stallions, 3 years old.
Matched teams of Registered Percheron mares.
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The Ideal Wool and Mutton Sheep. Years of careful selection and breeding have produced a big smooth, blocky-built sheep, well covered with long dense Delaine wool of fine fiber and crimp with oil enough to make it soft and silky. Cross them on range ewes and double your wool clip. R. W. Warner of Baker, Ore., crossed my rams on six-pound ewes and his yearlings averaged eleven pounds. My stock rams shear 30 to 32 pounds. Have ewes that shear up to 24 pounds. Rams for 1924 all sold. Have 125 big, smooth ram lambs—a choice bunch. Write for photos or come and see them. Can spare a carload of yearling and two-year-old ewes.

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All ewes offered safely in lamb to sire shown above.

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THE IDEAL BREED FOR FARM OR RANGE

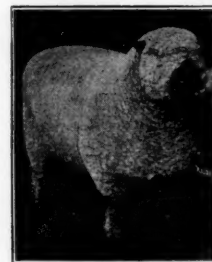
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Share of stock, \$5.00
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